# CNN-COLUMBIA DISASTER (6:00 P.M E.T- 12:00 A.M E.T) (2-1-2003)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA)

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From Saturday, February 1st, 2003 CNN breaking news coverage of the Columbia Space Shuttle breakup killing the crew of 7. STS-107 was wrapping up a 16 day mission in space, communication was lost at 9:00 A.M E.T, just 16 minutes before landing and breaking up over Texas.

- CNN was on the air live for 15 hours that day, not taking a commercial break until 7:59 P.M E.T
- Coverage runs from 6:00 P.M E.T - 12:00 A.M E.T

THE STS-107 Crew:
Commander: Rick D. Husband
Pilot: William C. McCool
Mission Specialist 1: David M. Brown
Mission Specialist 2: Kalpana Chawla
Mission Specialist 3: Michael P. Anderson
Mission Specialist 4:Laurel B. Clark
Payload Specialist 1: Ilan Ramon

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dave just said this program will go on it has to go on and that's the most we've ever that's what the president said and his remarks the gist of it were his words comforting to you he said he was speaking to you the family members he really said you are not alone that this entire nation grieves with you and he expressed that hope as well that this program go on yes i think it must we are we are a nation of explorers we have all that's why this great nation has come to what it is and the space program will go on too for that reason now david was very extraordinary he was a navy captain a flight surgeon a pilot this was his very first mission he had been chosen by nasa back in 1996 his parents said he was chomping at the bit to have this first opportunity to go and now they say that their final wish is that they get something from the wreckage that some remains might be found so that they will have something of david to bury here at their home in their in rappahannock virginia back to you kathleen i'm sure you've come across this as well as as we read over the biographies of these seven individuals they are they are ordinary people and yet extraordinary backgrounds i mean the things that they have done uh at the age that they that they are that they were uh is remarkable i mean as you said this man was a doctor he had a pilot uh it's pretty remarkable these people they truly are i mean this young man had when he was in college he was a champion gymnast at the college of william and mary in virginia he also was apparently the only astronaut who had ever been in a circus he apparently performed at a number of amusement parks doing juggling and all sorts of things before he began his career as a doctor as a flight surgeon and and as a pilot flying things as complicated as a6es f18 hornets so this was an extraordinary young man top of his class in navy flight school and just a very very tragic and abrupt end it certainly is

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end it certainly is actually kathleen i have a quote david brown apparently said once about when asked about the risk of flying he said this i made a decision that is part of my job i would incur some real risk as a routine part of my job when i joined the navy and started flying airplanes off ships particularly airplanes off ships at night and i think that was a decision that i made some years ago and the decision to go fly in space is just an extension of that david brown one of the men and women we mourn today kathleen koch thank you very much reporting from virginia we hear stories like this from all around the country today from from relatives who are mourning not just here at home but also abroad as we said before in israel in india we're going to go to judy woodruff who is standing by in washington judy thank you anderson and we want to what we want to do at this point is uh bring show everyone and we know not everybody has been able to sit around their television set all day long show you what president bush had to say to americans this afternoon it was a little after two o'clock eastern time when the president at the white house in the cabinet room made a very short address to the american people and we have that for you now my fellow americans this day has brought terrible news and great sadness to our country at nine o'clock this morning mission control in houston lost contact with our space shuttle columbia a short time later debris was seen falling from the skies above texas the columbia is lost there are no survivors on board was a crew of seven colonel rick husband lieutenant colonel michael anderson commander laurel clark captain david brown commander william mccool dr kultna shavla and elon ramon a colonel in the israeli air force

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ramon a colonel in the israeli air force these men and women assumed great risk in the service to all humanity in an age when space flight has come to seem almost routine it is easy to overlook the dangers of travel by rocket and the difficulties of navigating the fierce outer atmosphere of the earth these astronauts knew the dangers and they faced them willingly knowing they had a high and noble purpose in life because of their courage and daring and idealism we will miss them all the more all americans today are thinking as well of the families of these men and women who have been given this sudden shock and grief you're not alone our entire nation grieves with you and those you loved will always have the respect and gratitude of this country the cause in which they died will continue mankind has led into the darkness beyond our world by the inspiration of discovery and the longing to understand our journey into space will go on in the skies today we saw destruction and tragedy yet farther than we can see there is comfort and hope in the words of the prophet isaiah lift your eyes and look to the heavens who created all these he who brings out the starry hosts one by one and calls them each by name because of his great power and mighty strength not one of them is missing the same creator who names the stars also knows the names of the seven souls

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also knows the names of the seven souls we mourn today the crew of the shuttle columbia did not return safely to earth yet we can pray that all are safely home may god bless the grieving families and make out may god continue to bless america those words from president bush spoken just about four hours ago from the white house the cabinet room at the white house the president had been planning to spend the weekend at camp david maryland the presidential retreat but this morning a little after nine o'clock shortly after the shuttle disaster took place the president was called by his chief of staff andrew card who was there at camp david with him andy card had happened to be watching the nasa television channel and it saw when communications went down at that point he called nasa then he called the president so president bush was notified very quickly that something terribly wrong had apparently happened well all day long we've been reporting on the aftermath of this horrific tragedy over the state of texas one of the things people have been calling in about have been calling authorities about are those people who live in the area of eastern texas on into louisiana anderson cooper my colleague in atlanta is with us in anderson i believe you are speaking with someone who has actually seen some of this debris that's right uh judy we're going to speak to a woman by the name of dorothy langford uh she is an eyewitness apparently she lives uh near lake nacogdoches and some debris is said to have felt fallen into her yard i believe we have her on the phone right now miss

langford are you there yes what did you see what happened well first we heard the explosion about eight o'clock our time this morning a very loud uh roar and continued uh rumbling and went outside into the driveway and

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and went outside into the driveway and could see the vapor trail and the piece wasn't there at that time we came in and a few minutes later looked out and saw a piece in the driveway it's about a foot long a long narrow piece and from there we called the local authorities who came out and marked it off did you immediately know that the piece was from the space shuttle i mean when you after we heard the terrible noise and knew something happened i put the television on thinking you know something exploded i was thinking a pipeline or gas well or something and i saw the news on tv that it was a space shuttle so when we saw this piece it kind of snapped you know it must be a piece from that miss langford just so you know we're showing viewers uh uh while you've been talking we've been showing viewers some a picture of some debris lying in in the town of nacogdoches it's not the the piece of debris that you are talking about in particular uh it is a similar in in looking piece of debris and probably relatively close to where you are how far are you from from the town of nacogdoches itself we're about 12-15 miles um outside of town now were you even aware that the space shuttle was was was coming your way uh early this morning no sir we weren't so when you heard that the explosion you really had no sense of what it might be no no i knew something you know something bad was exploding but we didn't really you know have an idea what it was well you're obviously wise not to go too close to it not to touch and get involved with it authorities all day long have been saying people should simply call the authority call their local authorities and let them know they spot something do not approach it obviously there are some some toxic uh possibility of toxic chemicals involved in some of the some of these this debris well while the sheriff was here a car stopped by with a young boy that lives in our area and told the sheriff that he had a piece in his car he had picked it up and put it in his car

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it in his car with his hands their hands and of course the sheriff put on a couple of pair of gloves and took it from his car and has put that in our driveway also in the roped off area with the other piece and sent the boy to the hospital so is is the piece still in your driveway yes sir we still have the two pieces in our drive and and what have authorities told you about what's going to happen to it nothing the sheriff sat here about three hours this morning and then he left and we haven't heard anything done so there's no one watching after it except it's roped off now i assume yes and the sheriff asked my husband you know if he had to leave just to you know be sure we didn't move it and keep everybody away from it remarkable well uh ms lankford i appreciate you uh talking to us today i'm glad nothing happened with this debris i mean it's remarkable really when you think about it all this debris falling over such a large area no reports of casualties which we are all obviously very very thankful for it is a miracle one of our neighbors did see some floating in the lake as well so and there's so many woods around here i'm sure there are a lot of pieces no doubt may never be found yeah well miss langford appreciate it thanks very much okay thank you all right we're going to go back to judy woodward in washington judy you know anderson that's just what i was thinking there must be so many people out there who live in that broad area from eastern texas i guess just south of dallas all the way into louisiana where this debris is being picked up we even earlier today saw on the newswires people living in arkansas who said they saw an explosion in the sky we don't have any specific reports of debris coming down in the state of arkansas but it is a huge field across which this debris has fallen and we can only begin to imagine what it's going to be like for the authorities to pull to pull all this together make sure that each piece stays where it is isn't touched and so forth that's quite an undertaking it certainly is actually and earlier in the day we had heard that tom ridge of the office of homeland security had called uh security officials in various states louisiana arizona and new mexico even into the mexico interior

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into the mexico interior just warning them to be on the lookout obviously we have not heard subsequent reports about any debris in in that that far afield but um it is it is a distinct possibility i suppose judy yeah and they're probably just being safe because we know the shuttle was coming on a west to east trajectory it came across from the pacific ocean crossing california new mexico arizona texas and then of course on into on into louisiana well we've been we've been reporting anderson the shuttle was something like 200 000 more than 200 000 feet up in the air it was something like i somebody did the calculation about 39 miles above earth when it broke apart it was about though just 16 minutes away from landing at the kennedy space center in florida and that is where we find our cnn colleague lou dobbs we normally see lou as the anchor of money line with lou dobbs on weekdays here on cnn but lou you have taken a special interest for some time in space and in space flight so uh it's very appropriate that you're with us today well judy thank you very much here at the kennedy space center as you say i've had the privilege of watching shuttles launch the great pleasure of watching the america's space program advance and as we talk about the seven astronauts who today lost their lives and for whom we all grieve anderson was talking about their remarkable resumes their remarkable lives and it is for me at least very easy to pick the most remarkable american heroes of our of our generation and they are the astronauts uh and it just uh if anything can compound tragedy it is that men and women who with such talents are skills such ideals such commitment would lose their lives and i'm now joined by the house majority leader congressman tom delay in whose district many of the people who work for america space program

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work for america space program live and and work congressman good to have you with us thank you your thoughts well it's a tough time for those of us that know know these people uh it's a little more personal to us if you've worked with them and grown to know them i mean just a few weeks before rick husband came here to kennedy to lift off the commander of shuttle columbia exactly i met him at michael w smith's concert a christian concert and he introduced me to his wife and two children and gave me a patch and asked my wife and i to pray for him so that's uh so it's a little more personal it's personal it's tragic watching today as a number of the men and women of nasa are trying to come to grips with us what are your thoughts about what the next few days will bring well first and foremost it's very very important and sean o'keefe understands this that the nasa family needs to come together and grieve together and that that is happening uh and and at the same time uh their love for space and their professionalism also needs to be brought together and that is happening uh and they're on the one side the family is gearing itself for the future and understanding that this sacrifice will not go in vain and they're going to find out what happened and they're going to fix it and we're going to be flying again is there in this in your judgment a coming together of nasa is there the basis for advancing the space program do you see that uh is a is a possibility oh definitely um this this is tragic and it's horrible but you know man and the machines that it that he builds are not perfect and um and so things are going to happen

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and um and so things are going to happen unfortunately and and we wish they never would but um the good that comes out of this is that we can be comforted in knowing that that this crew of sts-107 is a crew that loved what they do they were doing knew it was important uh sacrificed their lives for it and so we're going to be more committed than ever to make sure that the space program continues and and pushes forward because the best tribute we could pay them is to uh do the things that they love doing and that's exploring space talking with a number of the employees here uh one man in particular saying to me that he was still in shock he hadn't even had the opportunity having lived through two previous tragedies that is the launch pad buyer apollo 1 and challenger in 1986 he had even been able to come to terms with the loss at this point well i think evelyn husband the wife of rick husband understands how to deal with the loss and through her faith uh she has pulled the families together you got to realize that this family has been together longer than most crews because this this uh shuttle has been put off and put off so they've been together well over 20 months uh they've gotten to know each other and love each other and and evelyn has shown the strength of our faith to understand what is going on here and uh understand that the god that she believes in is a loving god and

and will comfort them and get them through this congressman tom bellay thank you very much thank you we're going to turn now to my colleague rusty dornan in houston rusty i think some of the best evidence lou about how hard-hit folks were here at johnson space center is that while president bush was addressing the nation folks in mission control are being seen

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folks in mission control are being seen by a grief counselor everyone here just always describes it as this incredibly tight-knit community like a family that the folks when they think about sending humans into space that it's not a job it's a passion and that they are devastated by the loss of these seven families and they feel that something it could have been anything they could have done to have stopped it that it has really hit them hard now just outside johnson space center there has been a makeshift memorial sent set up and there are hundreds of people there that are putting flags from all over putting flowers also all of the businesses here in houston most of them have already put their flags at half mass they've got signs up on their merchants uh saying you know the merchants have their signs up saying that they how much sympathy they want to give to the families now as you know that the flights are on future hold here but they say their job will go on that the training here will go on the training of astronauts will go on but right now they are grief stricken lou well rusty rusty dornan in houston thank you very much the fact of the matter is that as congressman tom delay was saying the nasa space centers all over the country today began the process of analyzing what went wrong they are trying to come to grips with it and this space center kennedy space center which is if you will along with johnson the the primary the epicenter of america's space exploration efforts uh the fact of the matter is that i can recall vividly uh dan golden the former nasa administrator talking with great pride about how the risk of the shuttle program in particular had been diminished but he was forever reminding all of us the risk remained and they were still substantial let's go to gary tuchman at the kennedy space center visitor

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at the kennedy space center visitor center gary well though this morning we are told there were hundreds of people who were here around 9 00 a.m hoping to get a glimpse of the space shuttle landing here at the kennedy space center we are at the visitor information area and what usually happens is the space shuttle passes right over here and lands on the runway right across the road from us well those hundreds of people were devastated shocked and greatly said when they heard the news many of the people have stuck around much of the day to pay tribute to the seven astronauts who died right next to us is this black granite wall this has the names of all 17 astronauts who died in service of their country 10 of those astronauts died in airplane crashes before they ever went into space seven of the astronauts died in 1967 and the shuttle challenger explosion in 1986. two of the people who have been here all day are standing right next to this fence right now this is carolyn and teresa they came here to put out a candle to put out flowers first of all i want to ask you teresa what made you decide to come here i know you're from the area but what made you decide to come here to this wall and spend most of the day here well to pay my respects and show support you know it's like we lost them today but i still want to come down because i'm sure they would like to have seen or known that people were still here recognizing the fact that they were doing this for america and carolyn i want to ask you the same question how has it felt for you standing here knowing what's happened standing next to this memorial wall i've stood here before um today is a little different i have to admit i have a lot more pain and sorrow i was here the last time we left seven people going up and now i'm here again for the seven people that we lost today has it helped you cope with it being here today in front of your tv i think that it's helped me not yes not being in front of my tv and coming down here and actually taking the time out to to come down here and show that you know we still support the program and like the saying goes i've been around here a long time find out what's wrong and move on one of the most poignant things here i'm gonna go in between both you ladies right now to show our viewers what's in between you that picture that was put there just two

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picture that was put there just two hours after this accident happened those are the seven astronauts who were aboard the columbia the first space shuttle built the seven people who died whose names will be added to this black granite wall very soon to make a total of 24 astronauts who died in service of the united states of america lou back to you gary gary thank you very much the gary tuchman at the visitor center here at the kennedy space center i'm joined now by john zarrella who has been covering the space program and nasa for for for many years i had just mentioned the former administrator dan golda had once said to me that with great pride and justifiable pride in the in the men and women of nasa that they had reduced the risk of space travel particularly in terms of the shuttle but that it is still substantial did how often has it been your experience that the astronauts really talked about the risk that they are undertaking i don't think you know they never really talked about it unless they were asked about it but they all knew clearly that the risks were were very very high uh the number of criticality one items as they used to call it on the space shuttle uh particularly though i think the the most probably what has caught everybody off guard and by surprise today is the fact that it happened on re-entry it's coming back the issue was always out here right those first two minutes after liftoff while you're on those solid rocket boosters and there's nothing you can do to get away from it if there's a problem and those engines are revving and you've got all this incredible thrust lifting you up into the heavens and that's where everybody expected and people i talked with in the during the past 20 years would always say it'll probably be here again at kennedy space center where we'll have the next accident some sort of an accident would it be catastrophic who knew but nobody expected this i don't think and the astronauts deal with that risk with all sorts of terms of art in their

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all sorts of terms of art in their language light a candle talking about millions of pounds of thrust hurtling them into space into orbit a remarkable expression the risk itself golden said was 1 in 200 that was his best estimate we don't know what it is but we know that three times the risks were too great uh what is your sense of what happens now i think the the process will be very methodical uh it will be examining all of that data initially that they have the telemetry every piece they will go over it they will go over it again they will eyeball it not just one pair of eyes but numerous pairs of eyes they'll lay all that out they're going to have to try and recover as much data as possible and they're going to have to start piecing together almost as in an aircraft accident the debris what can they learn from the debris that's going to be a real challenge luke john zarrella thank you let's turn now to my colleague in washington judy woodruff judy thank you uh lou and i just uh i keep reflecting as we all do on the incredible contrast today the contrast between uh you know on the one hand uh these these extraordinarily uh capable uh people who went up in space mission after mission uh and and yet they were human beings with families and we saw that so vividly today at the at the nasa briefing when the two people who run the shuttle program uh beared you know their feelings for all to see it was quite quite something and actually quite emotional to watch we've been telling you all day long that there were six americans on board the shuttle columbia but there was also for the first time ever an israeli citizen he was colonel elon ramon a colonel in the israeli air force he was serving on this flight as a payload specialist 48 years old back in his home country

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48 years old back in his home country ramon is being honored as the best that israel had to offer and our own kelly wallace who's our jerusalem correspondent is with us from jerusalem with more on ramon and what he has meant and means to the israeli people kelly well judy tremendous sadness throughout israel on this night israeli prime minister ariel sharon a statement issued by his office saying the israeli nation is in mourning in light of this heavy tragedy earlier in the evening prime minister shiron spoke with u.s president bush and the prime minister we are told said that the hearts of the american people and the israeli people are bonded together now colonel ramon really became a hometown hero the first israeli astronaut to soar into outer space his liftoff was given tremendous coverage he was viewed by many israelis as a ray of hope after months and months of violence colonel ramon's extended family is now on its way to the johnson space center in texas to console colonel ramon's wife and his four children before leaving ramon's brother remembered colonel ramon saying that this 16-day mission was his proudest accomplishment there was

euphoria and great joy because it was the realization of elon's greatest dream he was overjoyed he corresponded from the shuttle he wrote that he felt he was above the clouds in every sense [Music] and colonel ramon had a distinguished military career he fought in two israeli wars he also took part in the bombing of a nuclear reactor in iraq in 1981. he is the son of holocaust survivors and so throughout israel today many people

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so throughout israel today many people said he was a symbol for jewish people all around the world he was the first astronaut to observe shabbat in space he took kosher food it was it was a real beautiful experience for the jewish people was something that the jewish people could be very proud of we were all so proud of eli ramon and the whole in the whole team i was shocked you know and i'm sorry about everybody not only about the illinois but everybody it's a shame you know really and condolences coming in from the palestinian community as well palestinian senior negotiator saib erakat telling me that palestinian president yahser arafat and the palestinian authority are extending their condolences to the six american families and to the one israeli family who lost their loved ones and judy we are also told that yasser arafat has sent a letter to president bush expressing his condolences to the american people judy and kelly i was going to ask you about this because you and i have been communicating today by a sort of internal email here at cnn and it's it's interesting to me that the palestinian officials wanted to make sure that their message did get out there before the public absolutely cyber erakat in fact was watching our coverage and called our bureau here to express his condolences and the condolences of the palestinian leader yasser arafat he said he was shocked to see the news and again wanted to express his condolences to the american people and to the israeli people and then he called us back a little bit later judy because he was concerned he didn't feel like that message was getting out obviously a very sensitive issue you have 28 months of violence the israeli-palestinian conflict continuing but the palestinians saying they are expressing their condolences tonight judy back to you all right kelly wallace

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judy back to you all right kelly wallace who's been reporting for us all day long from jerusalem thank you kelly it is uh it's clearly at a time like this when you say we're all in this together whatever nationality we know one of the other astronauts was born in india and so this was an international flight in many ways my colleague anderson cooper in atlanta anderson judy as i was listening to that report about colonel ramon i'm reminded of something ronald reagan president ronald reagan once said in the wake of the challenger disaster in 1986 he said the future doesn't belong to the faint-hearted it belongs to the brave and the seven people who died aboard the columbia shuttle today were certainly very brave let's take a look and remember and celebrate their lives [Music] so [Music] [Applause] [Music] [Applause] oh [Music]

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[Music] [Laughter] [Music] oh [Music] so [Music] one of those astronauts who perished today laura clark was 41 years old she was a medical officer aboard a submarine flight surgeon before that earlier we were talking about the remarkable resume of each of these individuals she is certainly one of them and a sad footnote to uh to her story her aunt and uncle lost a child in the 9 11 disaster the world trade center obviously yet another tragedy has befallen the family today we're going to check in just for the latest update right now with carol lynn who's in the cnn center carol thank you anderson we do want to give a quick summary of today's fiery re-entry of the space shuttle columbia and the deaths of all seven astronauts on board president bush says even as the nation grieves quote our journey into space will go on the first signs of the catastro catastrophe were evident even from the ground separate streaks fanning out from the main plume of the shuttle the mission was on its final leg racing across the texas sky on route to its landing at florida's kennedy space center now at the time of the breakup the shuttle was at an altitude of more than 200 000 feet above

north central texas that's some 40 miles above the ground it was traveling at 18 times the speed of sound nasa officials held a news conference this afternoon saying the investigation into the cause is already underway and there is nothing to suggest terrorism also varying sizes of debris have been

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also varying sizes of debris have been reported across a wide swath of north and east texas and into louisiana warnings have been issued though to not touch the material because of the danger from toxic substances experts say the debris could potentially be found in arizona and new mexico as well and cnn is going to bring you live coverage of the space shuttle columbia tragedy throughout the evening so please stay tuned in the meantime the faa also has a warning anderson i think that you've got that for us thank you very much oh yeah thanks very much carol the the faa is uh warning airline pilots to be alert to a debris cloud from the shuttle disaster uh that's hovering over lake charles louisiana officials say there's no danger to planes that fly through the cloud which could take several hours to dissipate we're going to go now to barbara starr who has standing by the pentagon where she has been reporting all day long for us barbara what's the latest well anderson what we can tell you is that defense officials are now saying that they will go back through some of their most classified equipment systems radars telemetry communications at norad the north american aerospace defense command and at the u.s strategic command in omaha and they will try and see if they can gain any clues as to what might have happened now of course as part of the air defense system over the united states routinely all of the data on any airborne objects radar trajectories all of that is routinely gathered they will go back now and see if they can get any clues as to what might have happened we asked about whether or not there was any evidence that the shuttle upon this incident happening had been struck by something in the air when this event occurred officials telling us tonight they have no specific evidence from what they know so far that the shuttle might have struck something they say they can't rule

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something they say they can't rule anything in can't rule anything out and they will can be part of a complete investigation as they look at some of this radar communications and telemetry and of course we want to tell you also remind people the u.s military was very involved earlier today in some of the search patterns over texas and louisiana fort hood texas which was getting ready for a deployment to iraq indeed launched helicopters over eastern texas looking for debris and in western louisiana two f-15s from the louisiana louisiana national guard they began flying surge patterns and they found large debris as far east as lafayette louisiana that's about 100 miles from the texas border they found it in pine and scrub brush we're told so this debris pattern is going to prove to be very very large anderson and barbara all day long we have been talking about terrorism early on people a lot of people especially on the internet sort of saying oh this this perhaps is an act of terrorist and that has been basically ruled out by by most responsible law authorities i i just want to make sure the pentagon what are they saying on that front let me give you one indicator something i was watching quite closely earlier today it's a saturday here at the pentagon and routinely top senior officials military and civilian officials are here at the pentagon on saturdays they've been doing that since the 9 11 attacks and they've been in in every saturday for their routine planning for any contingency in the persian gulf well we found out a number of meetings about planning for iraq were scheduled and i can tell you as far as we can determine all of those meetings went forward there were no changes in anybody's schedule the routine planning meetings for iraq went on and one has to think if there had been anything otherwise untoward in the shuttle incident those meetings would have been called off people would have been very busy on this other event that did not happen you mentioned norad being involved in

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you mentioned norad being involved in this if you could just give up briefly the scope of u.s military involvement in in the recovery efforts in in the investigation well there were about half a dozen helicopters flying earlier today six f-16s out of texas two f-15s out of louisiana a number of transport planes were also moved around the country they began shuttling nasa personnel back and forth to several sites now a lot of

that is on standby now for tonight and what will remain to be seen is tomorrow at first light although they have night vision equipment at first light tomorrow will we see some of these aircraft back in the air what the military is waiting for tonight is whether fema makes any formal request for military assistance uh for ongoing military assistance we're told that has not happened yet and we'll just have to see how all of that unfolds tomorrow anderson all right barbara starr at the pentagon as you have been all day thanks very much as we continue to cover this this breaking event we're going to go now back to judy woodruff who is in washington judy okay anderson we know that a big part of what the military is doing is helping to secure any debris that is on the ground that they haven't that officials have not had a chance to get to to retrieve and to make safe so that it can make its way back to nasa one of the places where we know debris has come down as in east texas and we make our way to the town of saint augustine texas where our colleague maria inahosa is at the home of a family that has found some debris on its property maria are you with us yes judy i am uh about 150 miles northeast of houston in the county of saint augustine we're on the farm of ronnie joe evitt who uh has about 500 acres i got here about half an hour ago and uh mr evan has been kind enough to take me around his property where he has already spotted four pieces of debris uh four very clear

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four pieces of debris uh four very clear distinct and different looking pieces of debris the first piece we saw judy was really laid out in the middle of his uh where his cattle grazes it was about five feet long and about a foot wide and it looked as if it had been uh charred and and simply twisted off it's very hard for me to tell you what it would have been part of but clearly a large five foot long piece that was in the shape of a u an upside down u when we saw it and and if you got close to it it actually did smell a little burnt very porous gray then we drove another little bit to another part across from the cattle field and we saw something that was pretty incredible it was um perhaps a one foot long very thin uh piece of steel that seemed to have been plunged right into the earth was standing straight up into the earth like a stake then we drove another mile away to another part of his property and again found another piece plunged uh really looking like a bracket with bolts you could see the bolts you could see um the the nuts on it in fact one of the the people that's accompanying us on as we're looking for these pieces said it actually looked like uh the form of a cross and and the final piece we saw was about um about an inch a square inch it it was a small square inch you could see three screws and actually a little area where it seemed to have some computer pins sticking out so this is just on one farm in saint augustine texas where many of the farmers are going out and surveying their land and they are in fact finding quite a bit of debris in this very large area of saint augustine county texas and maria so remarkable that no one has been hurt when you think of all the debris that has come down from that enormous machine that shuttle up in the air maria just to clarify again where is

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maria just to clarify again where is this farm in relation to houston it's about 150 miles north east of houston where we are judy and in fact as i was walking around and looking at these uh these pieces as i said some of them look like steaks really planted straight into the ground it is a miracle that no one was hurt these pieces are we don't know how deep they go into the ground because no one wants to touch them but they are pointy they are sharp uh it's um it's just very lucky that no one was hurt in this area but people are continuing to survey and uh and finding them bits and pieces there have been no officials who have come to this area on ronnie joe everett's farm yet to look at these pieces there have been some media but no one yet officially to come and look at them or or take them away and he himself has has looked at them but but not touched them as he has been advised by the authorities and just quickly maria did mr everett see or hear anything overhead when the shuttle exploded well he was feeling it he in fact was feeling that the earth was moving uh underneath him trembling and uh he had heard before shuttles coming over the area and immediately called his daughter and said by the way is there in fact the shuttle coming in daughter said yes there is and three minutes later the daughter called back and said the shuttle has uh has disappeared now so it was a very quick uh moment from the time that he felt the rumblings anywhere you go in this area you talk to people and they'll tell you what they felt they felt that there was as if there was an earthquake a rumbling sound as if there was a train the earth shaking cows running if the cows were out to pasture i heard some

people talking about seeing their cows running at the time when they heard this hurt and felt this sound and this movement so here in in this part of of uh saint augustine there are many people who are in fact spending their day who are looking they've come from other parts of texas nearby to spend their day trying to find

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nearby to spend their day trying to find out where this debris is so there are people who are not officials but who are out in fact looking for parts of this debris and right now um actually mr everett is pointing out to me that there is a plane circling above he said that there have been several planes and helicopters orange helicopters over his uh his area of about 500 acres that uh there's clearly a presence of authorities who are trying to um zero in on this area so right now passing above us is a plane that he believes and i can see it he believes is a kind of surveillance plane all right maria inohosa reporting as you just heard her say from a farm in texas over 100 miles outside of houston so interesting that the farmer describes the earth shaking so uh when when shuttles have gone overhead and he experienced the same thing today anderson back to you in atlanta well judy we are going to be joined on the phone now with by a man by the name of robert arnold he's a local reporter with the wkprc i'm told he's in hempfield texas uh mr arnold what are you seeing where you are right now this is just one of the areas where they have cordoned off where they have found debris you can see the yellow crime scene tape forming a triangle from some of the areas the investigators have just finished a very meticulous investigation this area taking pictures detailed measurements before moving on part of the problem that we've been seeing in the three counties saying augustine and sabine county specifically is there is so much debris scattered over such a wide area all they have time for right now is to just market leave a volunteer firefighter a deputy sheriff in the area to make sure nobody comes by and disturbs it but they have to market until federal investigators get a chance to get into that area and that is a monumental task at this point one of the more eerie things we found was about 15 to 20 miles to the west of where we were as we were traveling through san augustine county along highway 103 on the side of the road was a perfect mission patch it was intact it was singed just a little bit but it was a perfectly intact mission patch and it bore the names of all the seven astronauts so in

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of all the seven astronauts so in addition to debris there are some very eerie very tragic findings out here in this area and the people who live in this area are on edge at best because they're not sure what they're going to come across as they walk through these wooded areas and on their expansive properties anderson back to you robert we are we are looking at some very disturbing pictures obviously right now how widespread is this debris in the region you're in i mean we see the the the shot that you're showing us right now but as you drive through this area i mean is this every couple of yards i mean how how often do you come across debris it's it's it seems to go it seems to go in spurts you'll go for about a mile and you really won't see anything then all of a sudden you'll hit a patch where you'll see little yellow markers just about every couple of feet and some of the pieces they're finding it's it's they'll find pieces anywhere from as long as 12 feet down to as small as a quarter we were on one farm with one gentleman willard knight who found a piece that was really no bigger than than i would say a bathroom tile so that's the problem you'll go in through different areas and there won't be much but then you'll hit other areas and there'll be a tremendous amount of debris anderson uh you mentioned this patch that you had found were authorities on the scene had the area been cordoned yes actually they had a volunteer firefighter by the name of stacy rouse who was on that area they have marked it with a small evidence marker flag right now and they're waiting again until investigators can get to the air that's the problem they're just having to mark these areas off and just stand guard and make sure nobody disturbs it until federal investigators obviously nasa officials have a chance to actually get to the scene and process that debris themselves robert the picture we are seeing from i assume behind you is of a hearse with local law enforcement authorities sort of gathered around uh am i to assume that those are uh human remains yes that is that was found by the family living in this area here in hempfield uh hemphill pardon me and they do believe it was a leg and that's what they spent so much time doing so much investigation out here to make sure that they document everything thoroughly taking pictures

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everything thoroughly taking pictures taking very detailed measurements of the area and they finally finished that bowed their heads before they took that uh that remain placed in the back of that hurst and they finally left this area anderson um i don't really want to go into too many details on this uh robert but is there a sense of whether that is someone who was on the ground at the time debris hit or is it believed to be a member of the columbia crew at this time they believe it may be a member of the columbia crew given all the attention that the investigators put into this area and they roped it off spent quite a bit of time like i said you know taking measurements taking photographs so right now they are treating it as a possibility of being a member of the shuttle columbia but then again that official determination has not been made as of yet okay robert arnold appreciate you joining us from hemphill texas obviously very very disturbing pictures we're going to be going now to rusty dornan who's at the johnson space center in houston texas rusty what is the scene there anderson you know houston may be a big city but it's really a small town when it comes to the space center nearly everybody here knows somebody who works for the space program and it's really hit this town hard even outside the space center here there's already been a makeshift memorial put up people bringing flowers and flags a lot of the businesses in town have put up signs expressing their grief and their sympathy for the families of course here at the space center i think anyone who watched that press conference could see how difficult it was for them to even get through it they talked about how this is just not a job it's a passion sending people into space is a passion and they feel very close to the families involved usually when the astronauts are going through trainings folks here you know have barbecues with them they become part of the big family here and to lose them is a very painful experience now as we know the future flights are on hold but the astronaut training will continue and they're talking about that the job will go on however they did talk about

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will go on however they did talk about the fact that when asked what would come out of this tragedy they said they didn't even want to think about it that they didn't want to allow themselves to think about what they might have missed they only want to think about these seven families of course there already is a very tremendous program in place here at nasa with grief counselors and that sort of thing that that is ongoing all the time even as president bush was addressing the nation grief counselors were coming in to talk to mission control and really trying to address the folks here and how they're feeling about what's happened so all around continuously they did say this has just been a very bad day here at nasa anderson what's he doing in uh in houston rosie can you hear me or are you on ifb all right we'll go back to rusty jordan a little bit later on we are going to go now to judy woodruff who is standing by in washington judy thanks anderson somebody else we've been uh talking to hearing from all day is our colleague ed lavendera who is in nacogdoches i hope i'm pronouncing it correctly uh ed uh in east east texas this is i gather one community where a considerable amount of debris and presumably human remains may have come down we have seen heard reports from many of the people we've talked to throughout this part of east texas that almost everyone you talked to did say they heard this thundering thundering sound and what really stands out is just the length of time that they heard that thundering sound for one woman i talked to said it seemed like it lasted two minutes long this the sound and then they started hearing debris debris falling all over we've got cnn crews that have been throughout the region here today we understand that there are officials who have gone around in certain areas and started picking up some parts of debris we are here in downtown nacogdoches which is essentially almost kind of become like a gathering spot here for many people and it's all because in this little parking lot over here there's a small fragment of the space shuttle columbia and what we have seen here is almost kind of a bizarre scene many people here

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kind of a bizarre scene many people here coming together just sharing stories the recollections of what exactly happened this morning and what we've seen if you walk around this area in this part of downtown nacogdoches you do hear a lot of people just sharing with each other reflecting on the different stories and

throughout the region what you've also seen is just everyone armed with their video cameras and still cameras and going around the area taking pictures in fact at one point we saw a small piece of a fragment that was on a sidewalk just a near downtown here and it was no bigger than three inches by three inches but there was a crowd of about 20 people around it taking pictures of it and this is exactly what you've seen i just spoke with one mother who was taking her children around and she said you know in a weird sort of way this is a a an unfortunately a historic day and one that one of those days where people always remember where they were and those were that was the way that mother described it to me so she wanted to be able to spend that with her children and explain to them what exactly has happened we've seen crews around this area we do understand that we'll continue the process of pinpointing the different type of debris and wreckage that needs to be picked up and for the most part we do understand that a lot of people have been heeding the warnings that officials here have been giving folks that they need to stay away what we've seen is a lot of stuff like this where they have cordoned off these parking lots whether it be military personnel or state or local police we've also seen private residents who have had debris land in their property and they'll cordon off their own driveways or backyards whatever it takes to make sure that nobody hampers or or touches the the debris that is in the area so we've seen a lot of private citizens take it upon themselves to do that as well judy and i want to try to give our audience a better sense of the geographic spread of where this debris and and possibly human remains have come down you are in nacogdoches tell us help i don't know if we have a map available to show our viewers but but you know texas very well talk about where you are in relation to houston the houston space center in relation to to maybe to hemp hill county where we

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county where we we were just where anderson was just talking with a reporter there and before that we heard from maria anahosa who was in st augustine county i mean how big an area are we dealing with here we're talking with a massive area east texas in east texas you have to remember is also very different from what i think a lot of people's image of texas is east texas is is a hilly it's a it's uh known for uh having it known as the the piney woods so this this uh this uh debris and this in this land this terrain around here is very different from what i think most people's image of what texas is is supposed to be so you're dealing about an area that has a lot of just a a maze of rural roads that cross through it nacogdoches is north of north of houston in about a three and a half hour drive southeast of the dallas fort worth area so this is an area that is uh you really have to know the roads to kind of navigate through here there's only one major highway that kind of connects you up into the northern part of into the northern part of texas but this is a massive area and a lot of the where the debris has fallen quite frankly i wouldn't be surprised if you've seen it fall in wooded areas that might take several days to reach or on large farms or ranch lands that could you know i think i've heard reports of a lot of people just combing through their through their land to see if they might come across anything in fact uh they're we saw a couple of guys riding around as we were driving into here go cutting across their own land to see if they could find anything so a lot of people paying attention to this is going to take very a lot of time just to be able to gather all the different pieces that are scattered all over the place you're talking about a huge area and and and ed once again what kinds of of pieces are they describing to you just we've just talked about what they what was in that parking lot but what else are they describing well what they do describe is that a lot of people and i think it's their it's based on what a lot of people have heard us reporting throughout the day for example uh the talk of the tiles and and and the foam fragments that uh that miles o'brien had been talking about through throughout the day as well um so you know some of the fragments that i've seen kind of kind of resembled that in some places has been harder to see than than than in others uh but

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than than than in others uh but a lot of the stuff that you do come across as well we haven't seen anything bigger than about five or six feet in in diameter and a lot of the stuff is as you could tell has was burned pretty well uh so it's hard to tell exactly what the different fragments might be but as soon as the nasa officials are able to get to some of these locations i think they'll be able to instantly recognize perhaps what some of the pieces might be well one would assume they're going to have to use some local authorities to help them do

that police and and other perhaps fire and other officials all right ed lavender with us from nacogdoches in east texas a place where a good amount of debris and we assume human remains have come down from the shuttle columbia let's go back to atlanta now and anderson cooper anderson judy thanks very much so as we've been talking about the recovery and and and the recovery efforts so far i want to go back a little bit and and go over the actual event itself it occurred around 9 a.m eastern time this morning as the space shuttle columbia was around 200 000 feet or so at an altitude of about 200 000 feet we know they were traveling about 12 500 miles an hour undertaking a series of banking turns which helps slow the space shuttle down as it approaches uh the the landing pad in florida we're going to play you now the the actual voice communication the last known voice communication between the columbia crew and the johnson space center in houston in columbia houston we see your tire pressure messages and we did not copy your last that was obviously the silence that occurred after that last message from from a commander rick husband who was at the controls just about 60

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was at the controls just about 60 minutes before the space shuttle was supposed to land at cape canaveral in florida we there was a press conference earlier today uh milt uh heflin the chief flight director and ron dinnemore the shuttle program manager held a press conference at the johnson space center in houston uh both said obviously an investigation will be underway shortly they have already begun to impound the hardware they said preserve the evidence and pounding the data for investigators to search over obviously that will be combed over very carefully in the coming days and weeks and months there's no telling how long this investigation might occur no telling if and when the the next space shuttle will launch we're going to check in right now with carol in for an update on what's been going on around the country carol anderson we want to recap now the shocking events of today the tragic loss of space shuttle columbia and its crew colombia was on its way back from its 28th mission to land at florida's kennedy space center but over central texas a trail of destruction the shuttle began breaking into fiery pieces at more than 200 000 feet the nation is mourning the loss of the seven columbia crew members they were coming home from a 16-day scientific mission the mission was also historic crew member elon ramon was the first ever israeli astronaut president bush fondly lauded the astronauts for their bravery earlier from the white house these men and women assumed great risk in the service to all humanity in an age when space flight has come to seem almost routine it is easy to overlook the dangers of travel by rocket and the difficulties of navigating the fierce outer atmosphere of the earth these astronauts knew the dangers and they faced them willingly knowing they had a high and noble purpose in life

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purpose in life because of their courage and daring and idealism we will miss them all the more meanwhile the probe into colombia's deadly dissent is already underway nasa investigators are gathering data and across texas into louisiana authorities are gathering pieces of fallen debris please stay with cnn this evening for special report at eight eastern larry king live at nine eastern and other live coverage of the columbia disaster we're going to go throughout the night with live coverage in the meantime columbia headed for home as all shuttles do flying in fast and hard in the days and weeks that followed nasa will try to understand what caused the shuttle to break up just minutes short of her final destination cnn's federica whitfield traces columbia's timeline early saturday before sunrise in florida good weather was expected at the shuttle's landing site at the kennedy space center the mission's only glitch so far had been a pair of malfunctioning dehumidifiers which raised temperatures inside the shuttle's laboratory payload module slightly higher than desired as the sun rose in cape canaveral florida the early morning fog burned off and mission control gave the seven astronauts the go-ahead to come home on time mission control radioed the instructions you are go for the deorbit burn shortly afterwards colombia begins its descent these were the last words heard from colombia in columbia houston we see your tire pressure messages and we did not copy your last roger at about 9 a.m eastern time nasa officials lost contact with columbia as it soared over north central texas the craft was at an altitude of about hundred thousand feet traveling at twelve thousand five hundred miles per hour and was about 16 minutes away from the estimated landing time the loss of contact was the first sign

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the loss of contact was the first sign of any trouble communications with colombia were lost at about 8 am central time about to 10 10 minutes ago fearing the worst nasa ordered flight controllers to pull out emergency procedures and order them to retain all their records there was no further communication and no further tracking data debris was found across a large area of southeast texas nasa issued a warning that any debris in the area should not be handled because it's hazardous fredericka whitfield cnn and anderson they're still finding debris across a couple of states and it is a big job ahead they're trying to secure those areas to make sure that people do not touch the debris which of course can be toxic that it can be caroline thanks very much for that update we're going to go now to my colleague lou dobbs who's standing by the kennedy space center in florida luke anderson thank you very much i'm here now with congressman dave weldon who is a great supporter and advocate of the space program a great friend of nasa's and in whose district many of the people who live and work here reside congressman i know that you've been here for some time your thoughts well it's a tragic day for uh the families uh the crew it's a tragic day for the entire nasa and the entire community here at the space center but it's also a tragic day for the nation indeed the the nasa administrator uh sean o'keefe has been briefing a number of congressional leaders including your yourself the search has begun for answers what can you tell us about what you've learned to this point well many people were very concerned about that debris that hit the orbiter on launch but i was reassured by mr o'keefe and his assistant bill reedy that that sort of

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assistant bill reedy that that sort of thing has happened on many missions in the past and there was no significant damage to the orbiter so i think we really need to let the investigative teams do all their work and try to get some answers here ron kittimore who is the manager as you well know the director of the shuttle program uh focused on that issue uh i'm obviously a man torn both with the loss of the astronauts and the shuttle seeking already answers uh the issue of uh readings on these sensors uh what was what is the best information you've gotten to this point as to what was the earliest indication of what went wrong and as specifically as you could uh well what we were told when we were briefed was that there were several sensors that had gone dead one of them measured the pressure and the tire on the landing gear there was another sensor i think involving some hydraulic equipment it went dead and they they tell us they don't know if the equipment was going bad or the sensor or the power to the sensor and then there was some sort of indication at the bond site between the tiles and the aluminum skin that there was some temperature going up and then of course after that they lost all data the tiles being of course the the thermal thermoplastics upon re-entry to protect the aircraft the the spacecraft from uh from the high heat that's generated uh what is what is your thought as to what this means right now i know we're all in the midst of loss we're in the midst of grief over this tragedy what are your thoughts as to what it means for the u.s space program well my major concern was the station we have a shuttle mission that was supposed to go up march 1st to the space station i've been reassured that there's enough supplies on the station that they can wait till sometime in june

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that they can wait till sometime in june we also have this redundant capability with the russians they can go up there and bring materials and and exchange crews so uh i was just aboard soyas or progress vehicles so i was assured that we can keep the station going okay and that of course is part of our space program uh but you know i'd like to see the shuttle return to flight safely and and i want to take whatever amount of time is necessary to reassure us all that it can fly safely after the the dreadful challenger tragedy in 1986 it was years before the shuttles return to space flight what is your best assessment now well i'm hoping it won't be years hoping that we can put the resources behind investigating this that we can get answers fairly quickly and put the best minds behind the necessary changes that have to be made to make sure it doesn't happen again and hopefully it will not be i think it was 32 months last time and hopefully it won't be that long congressman dave weldon we thank you very much that was a very difficult day for you it sure has been tigers thank you very much now back to you uh my colleague anderson cooper in atlanta anderson lou

thanks very much we're going to go to kelly wallace who's standing by in jerusalem as she has been reporting for us throughout the day kelly obviously reaction there to the the death of columbia space shuttle uh astronaut ilan ramon the first israeli astronaut uh chosen to fly on the space shuttle uh what sort of reaction are you hearing well anderson colonel ramon's experience was viewed by many israelis as a ray of hope after months and months of violence so as you can imagine his tragic and sudden death hitting this country very hard the latest information we are told there will be a special tribute for colonel

01:08:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=4080s)

will be a special tribute for colonel ramon at the sunday cabinet meeting of course headed by israeli prime minister ariel sharon the u.s ambassador to israel will be there as well colonel ramon really was a hometown hero becoming the first israeli astronaut to go into outer space 48 years old spent his career in the military fought for israel in two wars also took part in the mission the bombing mission of a nuclear reactor under construction in iraq in 1981 so throughout israel today people remembering him he is the son of holocaust survivors as well and so many israelis saying he is a symbol for jewish people all over the world well kelly he had also brought a a drawing that was made by a young man in one of the death camps um tell me about that exactly anderson he took with him to space a drawing from a 14 year old a pencil drawing a 14 year old jewish boy who was killed during the holocaust so he took this with him to space obviously a very powerful moment being the son of holocaust survivors but a very important symbol really to jewish people all over the world and we understand also anderson that colonel ramon was not really a very religious man he was more of a secular man but he did want to follow certain jewish traditions in space so he observed shabbat the jewish sabbath and also observed kosher traditions while he was in space and that was another important symbol he knew this was a big step really obviously the first israeli astronaut in space and so he wanted to take the jewish heritage there as well anderson and that and that he certainly did we're running pictures from a documentary that uh we actually spoke to the director of the documentary shortly ago dr randy made about colonel ramon that he was still making uh really for the last four years also kelly i also have a quote which i i

01:10:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=4201s)

also kelly i also have a quote which i i read from the uh the associated press that uh a friend from high school said that colonel ramon had sentry emails from space talking about quote the divine happiness of looking at earth and this woman says that uh he wrote that he'd like to keep floating in space for the rest of his life um obviously someone who has been highly motivated to get into this space program he became an astronaut in 1997 and he's been living in houston with his family ever since isn't that right exactly in houston with his wife rona and his four children as he's been training there the israeli ambassador to the u.s danny i alone saying earlier in the day that his family really enjoyed being there going to schools in texas and enjoyed the experience and just going back though to uh talking about colonel ramon you know it has really struck a big chord for the entire community the entire israeli public and uh as we've been saying throughout the day many people i was here anderson and there was tremendous coverage when he lifted off into space the front page of every newspaper on every israeli television station and after weeks and months of violence it was viewed as one piece of really good news after lots of bad news and so again it is hitting people so hard tonight sadness from every part of this country we're actually we're actually playing some of that video right now of colonel ramon showing the drawing uh made by the 14 year old boy in a concentration camp a drawing that he carried with him in space which was very important to him to bring and which he no doubt had with him today um as the the colombia came to its terrible end as as you walk on the street i know you've got some sound bites from some people what what sort of things were people saying uh or if you want you could just play the sound bites what what were people saying to you on the street well i don't know if we have the sound bites available if we do we can run them people were saying everything from again it was a first step for an israeli a jewish man people shocked

01:12:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=4320s)

an israeli a jewish man people shocked one woman i thought really said it all a woman in tel aviv who said nothing seems to go right in this country nothing at all i think we have some of that sound by uh together let's take a listen he was the first astronaut to observe shabbat in space he took kosher food it was it was a real beautiful experience for the jewish people was something that the jewish people could be very proud of we were all so proud of of ellie ramon and the whole in the whole team i was shocked you know and i'm sorry about everybody not only about the illinois but everybody it's a shame no really and again going back to the emails that colonel ramon was sending to his family anderson his brother told us about an email he received from colonel ramon just two days ago and this really a powerful message his brother saying quote he was so happy that he didn't want to come back to earth and he didn't anderson back to you uh our colleague judy woodruff was reporting earlier that uh president bush has made a call to uh israeli prime minister aliyah sharon i understand ramon he did he spoke with the father earlier this evening again to express his condolences the israeli government also making sure that the entire extended family colonel ramon's father his brother anyone else who wanted to go could go to the johnson space center in texas to console colonel ramone's wife and his four children and about that phone call anderson yes president bush and the prime minister speaking it was a brief phone call but powerful exchange of messages we understand president bush saying this was a tragic day for israel for the united states for science he called colonel ramon a brave israeli citizen and extended his condolences to the people of israel and the prime minister

01:14:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=4441s)

people of israel and the prime minister again saying that the hearts of the israeli people and the american people were bonded together and he said that we are all sort of joining hands and praying together and also extending condolences to the american people for their losses tonight anderson kelly just my final question to you also we're getting a reaction from palestinians as well is that right not correct yes yes uh reaction coming in from the palestinian community the palestinian senior negotiator cybercut in fact calling us earlier this evening to say that the palestinian leader yasser arafat and the palestinian authority expressing their condolences to the six american families and to the one israeli family who lost loved ones and then also we are told the officer arafat has sent a letter to u.s president bush extending his condolences to the american people as you know anderson these two men have never met i don't believe they have either spoken either but the palestinians wanting to convey their condolences to the american people and to the israeli people after this tragedy anderson all right kelly wallace live in jerusalem thanks very much kelly we're going to go now to uh john zarrell who's standing by the uh kennedy space center john who's covered a lot of shuttle emissions that cover the challenger disaster as well john what are your thoughts that's right anderson you know i was was here when challenger exploded 17 plus years ago now i remember down by the the review clock down there and down by the flag uh when challenger went up and of course we all watched it and we all watched it disappear into this cloud of smoke uh but from the ground level of course we could not imagine or fathom what had happened at that point and i recall the the chaos that ensued here at the kennedy space center as all of us were running around and scrambling and trying to get whatever information we could and information was very difficult to come by uh and and now jumping forward to to this event today i commented earlier with lou dobbs that i thought that uh

01:16:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=4561s)

with lou dobbs that i thought that uh you know one of the things of course that nasa learned out of the tragedy of challenger was how to better handle these situations in the eventuality that they happened i think in the back of everyone's mind at nasa while they hoped and prayed that it would never happen again that it is a very complicated vehicle and there are all kinds of things that could go wrong and they knew better this time how to handle this situation the information was tremendously forthcoming today during the during the briefings uh everything was far more organized here at the press center than it was back 17 plus years ago no less a tragedy uh no less of somber feeling here but people had their jobs to do and they went about it and did them and the plans that were laid into place following challenger uh came into play today unfortunately but certainly it it seemed that everything was far more organized and i think that the investigation that will ensue will also have benefited tragically enough from challenger they know what to do

they know how to go about the business of gathering the data and the information and assembling the teams uh that will be needed and they may well call upon people anderson uh who worked on the challenger commission and who were involved in that investigation to lend their expertise again here uh in in this in this very very uh tragic incident anderson john obviously this investigation is just getting started it will be taking many days and weeks and months no doubt if not perhaps longer than that even john jarrell thanks very much uh joining us right now we're gonna go to patty davis who's standing by in washington has some information on the investigation patty anderson a massive debris search is now underway across several states the federal emergency management agency or fema is coordinating the federal government's response and recovery of that debris from the shuttle breakup the military guarding and searching for debris using planes boats and helicopters

01:18:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=4680s)

helicopters the national transportation safety board this evening sending vehicle structure and systems experts to help now ntsb crash investigators helped piece together debris from the in-flight breakup of the twa 800 crash and this debris field possibly 100 times bigger than that nasa meanwhile taking steps today and pounding data to make sure that it keeps everything it needs to uh so communication from the shuttle data from the shuttle uh so that it can look at that and use that to help in the investigation the faa has put a huge no-fly zone into place from texas to louisiana 40 miles wide by 160 miles long that to make it easier for recovery teams to do their jobs and today a massive debris cloud hanging in the air off the louisiana coast heading towards the gulf the faa telling pilots simply to keep an eye out for that anderson patty let's talk about the investigation a little bit exactly who is running it i mean we talk about the faa the ntsb fema uh i i assume fema is the one overall in charge who's the go-to person on this well i think that's kind of unclear right now uh fema looking to do the first response to do uh the recovery efforts of the debris now nasa of course will launch is its own investigation into what happened the cause of this it announced today that it has also set up an independent board to look at the look at the cause of this crash that involves agencies the military the department of transportation the federal aviation administration so you're going to have a couple parallel investigations going on here uh that independent board pretty much set up to make sure that it has uh it has no dog in this fight it's just in there independently uh perhaps finding some things that nasa wouldn't find we have we don't know well patty i mean it might not be known at this point earlier on in the day there had been some talk that tom ridge uh was going to be sort of overseeing uh the the the

01:20:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=4800s)

the the the the overall uh efforts right now i guess because fema's becoming part of his department come march first is there any more on that at this point that's true big question will he be calling the shots on this a new agency in charge of domestic incidents like this one as well as terrorism i just think uh we don't have uh we don't have the final word on that i don't have the final word on that anderson and and just if you do know is there a sense of how long these sorts of investigations take i mean are we talking months are we talking years do we know well if you look at the twa 800 accident that took literally years so with an accident of this magnitude one would expect months if not years and and i remember in that investigation i mean often they literally try to to re to put together uh the the airship again is that going to be attempted here do we know well you know that's interesting they did put that back together the ntsb uh had it in a hangar and put pieced it back together and was able to establish that it was the the center fuel tank um and i think uh ntsb also told me today that it was involved in piecing together of the shuttle challenger so uh certainly ntsb will uh be instrumental uh they've got experience uh they'll most likely be trying to do that again the problem here though this uh this shuttle broke up a 200 000 feet up in the sky and you can imagine how wide this debris field must be it's going to be awfully hard to collect all those pieces but that's why all these agencies are out there right now cordoning off areas that big no-fly zone uh in place right now to keep aircraft out of there they want to keep people from touching this uh this debris so they can gather it together and the hope would be to piece it together again you know it's interesting when there is a plane crash everyone by now knows about the black box and the and the the flight data recorder that's what people look for um in their the press conference earlier today nasa officials were saying they are looking for for what they refer to as the black box

01:22:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=4921s)

to as the black box but the shuttle really is plug so plugged in to mission control i mean is is there actual information in the debris that they they need or do they have all the information already in the data in in all the machines and and the equipment that they already have in mission control well you know i was surprised to hear uh the nasa officials saying that there is a black box of sorts they've got a data recorder a voice recorder as well but he said uh more importantly is that streaming information that is coming 24 7 from this mission into mission control uh and their recording on that that is going to be just invaluable and that is probably going to be what's providing the best clues here for the investigation all right patty davis in washington thanks very much appreciate it in this ongoing investigation a lot a lot to cover in the in the coming days and weeks we're going to show you a live shot right now cape canaveral this is a really beautiful shot right now the law is the tragedy that has occurred here [Music] some 10 almost 10 and a half hours ago that is live at cape canaveral we're going to be bringing you a special report in about 35 minutes columbia shuttle tragedy that's with miles o'brien wolf blitzer judy woodruff and lou dobbs that's tonight at eight o'clock eastern time 5 p.m pacific time miles is going to be here in atlanta wolf blitz or the johnson space center in houston judy woodruff in washington as she has been all day and lou dobbs manning his post at the kennedy space center in florida i hope you stay with us for that special report columbia shuttle tranche we're going to check in right now with susan melville who's at the white house and has been there throughout much of the day susan what's the latest well as you know anderson this is really one of the toughest jobs that the president has and he is again once faced with that job of bringing the nation together in time of tragedy the president came forward saying it was a day of mourning of reflection of prayer of president bush addressing the nation um actually ordering that all the flags

01:24:02 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=5042s)

um actually ordering that all the flags of federal flags and buildings here even at the white house be lowered at half staff to mourn the loss of those on the shuttle it was earlier today that the president was at camp david he was notified by his chief of staff andy card about the tragedy he decided to come back to the white house early where he addressed the nation he said that the entire nation grieves with you this to the families of the victims that it was a cause for which they died which will continue our journey into space will go on in an age when space flight has come to seem almost routine it is easy to overlook the dangers of travel by rocket and the difficulties of navigating the fierce outer atmosphere of the earth these astronauts knew the dangers and they faced them willingly knowing they had a high and noble purpose in life because of their courage and daring and idealism we will miss them all the more the president before making that address called a private call conference call to the victims families at the kennedy space center they were all gathered around a speaker phone the president we were told quite emotional during that call uh white house aide's telling us and uh he was saying here we express our love and appreciation for all those who died today i want the loved ones to know there are millions of americans praying for you including me and laura we are also told that he said it was an incredibly tough day for you may god bless you all i wish i was there to hug cry and comfort you we are told by someone who was in the room with the president at that time when he made that call standing at his desk in the oval office that he left his staff momentarily a rather poignant moment he was a somber and he left to the residence where he excused himself for some time and then returned to be briefed by advisers we're also told that the president talked with israeli prime minister eros sharon to give his condolences for the israeli who was lost on the shuttle and

01:26:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=5160s)

israeli who was lost on the shuttle and we're also told that the president received a number of calls from world leaders including world leaders from mexico france russia and canada should also mention too anderson it was quite a busy day here at the white house we saw national security adviser condoleezza rice coming and going we also saw chief of staff andy card as you know the situation room was up and operational and full gear today as well as the new secretary of homeland security that being governor tom ridge he was here and one of the first duties that he has been charged with through executive order of the

president is to designate and to coordinate just what is going to happen in times like these domestic crises not only in a situation a terrorist situation he designated fema as the lead agency to take on recovery as well as nasa taking on the investigative role anderson suzanne i'm wondering kelly wallace earlier was reporting that the palestinians the officer arafat has been trying to send his condolences i'm wondering if the white house had received that or had any comment public comment about that we haven't received any public comment about it but we do know that uh yasser arafat sent a letter to the white house and not really sure whether or not it's been received or just how it has been received but the president's spending his day in the residence with the first lady after addressing the nation uh emphasizing that this is really a time of unity not only for the american people but for the world as well mother of the white house thanks very much the tragedy certainly touches all of us uh we are joined now in washington by a man by the name of michael bond he was director of the situation room uh in the reagan white house when the challenger disaster occurred in 1986. uh mr bomb thank you very much for being with us thank you it's a pleasure to be here um back in 1986 take us back into the situation room what was it like being in that room uh at that terrible time well it was just as shocking as it was this morning when i watched it on on tv the the network tv tv networks had not covered the shuttle

01:28:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=5281s)

tv networks had not covered the shuttle in 1986 as they had in their early days and so cnn was really the only one that that covered the launch and i just remember seeing the challenger explode and there is no domestic situation room at the white house there's only one and we had to deal with it whether it had to do with national security fairs or not and i just ran upstairs and i broke the most sacred rule in the white house which is i open doors without an appointment i stuck my head in john poindexter's office and i said the shuttle was exploded turn on the tv i went down to george bush's office told him the same thing the chief of staff don regan and we all went into the oval office to watch the challenger explode and what happens then i mean obviously you don't have an eye into to this white house you're not there but but but from your own experiences what is the procedure when something like this happens after you've knocked on those doors after you've barged in and say turn on the tv what then well the sit room is first and foremost the president's alert center it's his current intelligence center and it's been that way since 1961 when kennedy established it so the the really responsible uh people that deal with that are the duty officers the staff of the sit room and their first and foremost responsibility is to funnel information upstairs to the national security advisor in this case the chief's chief of staff's office because it's a domestic issue and funnel whatever they can get their hands on from nasa from faa from the pentagon of course there's this added specter of terrorism and so they had to ask a few questions of the cia and the intelligence community but the fundamental thing is to get information and keep it flowing upstairs and in a time like that i mean how long does it take for the information to to get to you i mean obviously it comes in much like in a newsroom it comes in and drips and drabs from various sources but do you have how quickly do you get all the information well today everything works at cnn speed as a director of the sit room said during the clinton administration in 1986 we had to

01:30:02 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=5402s)

clinton administration in 1986 we had to go out and get it we had we had to set up telephone lines to the kennedy and johnson spacecraft center put him on a speaker box and ask for information i invited the administrator of nasa to come over and use my office because he in those days didn't have the command center that the government agencies have today so it's much faster today the sit room knows things about as fast as you know them but of course there's plenty of other sources of information uh michael bond appreciate you joining us it is an interesting look into a very difficult time both back in 1986 with the challenger disaster and and what must have been a terrible event uh today for for the bush white house michael bond thanks very much for joining us as judy woodruff has been reporting all day long president bush was at camp david when he got the news he was advised by andy card who came in told him he immediately returned to the white house where he gave a briefing earlier today made a very poignant statement from the cabinet room at the white house we're going to get an update right now from carolyn who's standing by in the newsroom carol what's the latest anderson we want to take a look back at today's

horrible tragic events and we want to do it step by step because so much has happened for example just before 9 a.m eastern columbia and its seven-member crew were flying more than 200 000 feet over north central texas at more than 12 000 miles per hour then suddenly at 9 00 a.m nasa's mission control loses all data and voice contact with the shuttle and the crew at the same time residents of texas arkansas and louisiana report hearing a big bang and seeing flames in the sky 9 16 a.m eastern time columbia is expected to land at kennedy space center in florida it does not at the same time mission control immediately declares a contingency plan for the space shuttle search and rescue teams in central texas are alerted to what has happened at about 9 17 eastern immediately after

01:32:02 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=5522s)

at about 9 17 eastern immediately after colombia misses its landing window nasa alerts president bush and homeland security director tom ridge following this president bush leaves camp david for the white house director ridge begins calling authorities in central texas and nearby states about fallen debris with more information gathered from data and pictures nasa administrator sean o'keefe makes a statement he calls the incident quote a tragic day for the nasa family the families of the astronauts and the nation less than an hour later at 208 pm president bush speaks to the nation he honors the fallen astronauts saying they had a high and noble purpose in life he says because of their courage and idealism we will miss them all the more and please stay with cnn for live coverage of the columbia disaster throughout the evening anderson there is so much to talk about i know that you've been covering the ground and we've got teams all over the country but uh still they're not confirming they still won't know for several days if not months exactly what happened to the shuttle well that is certainly true the investigation uh as as many of our reporters been telling us could go on for years even uh it is simply too soon to tell caroline thanks very much we're going to go now to edlamandera who is uh still in nacogdoches texas uh where there has been a lot of debris on the ground uh ed what are you seeing well anderson really nacogdoches is just a just one of the one of the many areas that has seen debris fall over over the area over the course of the last uh of the today and a lot of people here this is a in downtown nacogdoches which in a weird way has kind of become a central gathering spot for a lot of the residents here early on throughout the day we saw a lot of people just gathering here there's a a small piece of debris in the middle of this parking lot that has been roped off and now military officials are standing guard over it as waiting uh for someone to come by and pick it up here we do understand we have cnn crews in the uh in the areas just

01:34:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=5640s)

cnn crews in the uh in the areas just outside of nacogdoches who say that there are nasa officials in the area and now we begin the process of trying to figure out which pieces of debris will be collected at first as we've heard nasa officials say gathering this evidence will be very crucial to them as they they're able to put together as they're able to continue their investigation as to what might have happened today so uh very crucial work also the warning from authorities that perhaps some of these pieces might be toxic in some way so they're urging people to stay away we have heard reports from hospitals in the area where people have checked themselves in just because they happen to have handled some of these pieces earlier on in the day before a lot of this news broke out they shouldn't touch it it's a lot of people getting themselves checked out nothing major can report from that but we do also understand that there are reports now that uh body parts have been found southeast here of nacogdoches so you know kind of a exclamation point there to what uh what we already known as i know to be a tragic day here in the east texas area and many of the people here have started started coming out very early and sharing their stories among each other it's almost become kind of an odd scene at times where we've seen fragments of material where people have come with cameras video cameras to uh take pictures of the scenes that are out here we saw one portion near downtown here where there was a just a small tiny piece of debris on a sidewalk and it could have been more than three inches wide and three inches tall and there must have been a group of about 20 people hovering over it nobody touching it but everybody taking pictures of it and uh that's kind of what we've seen here all day so kind of an odd twist to what has been happening here throughout the day anderson yeah ed we talked to another reporter nearby who was saying that who showed us actually video of a hearse uh

some officials uh moving basically a body bag obviously there is a lot of very gruesome work ahead for for these investigators i'm curious though ed about what sort of resources local authorities there have to deal with this this wide pattern of debris i spoke earlier with a woman by the name of dorothy langford she was in her home when when the explosion

01:36:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=5760s)

in her home when when the explosion happened and a piece of debris landed in her yard police came to the scene but then they left they cordoned off the area and they basically left and she's still in her home with this piece of debris in her front yard sort of waiting for federal authorities to show up are authorities spread very thin there in terms of trying to police secure all these areas i think what they what has happened they've gotten hundreds of phone calls today reporting debris in in many locations we've seen in some situations where private landowners have cordoned off the area themselves and then they've called called in the report we do understand that all local and state authorities are working the situation and responding to all these calls as as best they can there's also help that has come in from the fort hood army base which is in central texas just a couple of hours away from here as well that are being lent in to help out in this situation but i think also they're in the process of categorizing which exactly which pieces of debris they should visit first you know there's some pieces that are bigger than others and so perhaps that's kind of the way they're uh they're sending out the troops in terms of being able to collect all of all of this but we do see and remember anderson that this area parts of east texas can be very rural very woody area a lot of a lot of forest as well so there might be debris scattered across areas it could take some days to reach all right ed lavender and nacogdoches texas thanks very much appreciate it we're going to go now to bob franken who earlier was at the air and space museum get some getting feedback from people visiting that that monument in washington bob still here anderson the museum is closed but i wanted to give you a sense of it you can see behind me this section here was devoted to the columbia shuttle mission that's a model of it in back of me of course this is the world's busiest museum 9 million people plus come here a year mostly to celebrate flight but today they were flocking here to mourn continue to meet with you and keep you informed of just how this is progressing here at the display established to highlight this columbia space shuttle mission they gathered in front of the screen setup to monitor mission control

01:38:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=5880s)

setup to monitor mission control now they were watching sad history unfold when i heard it i almost thought is am i watching a repeat of the challenger because um but it said it was live news and i was really stunned and i thought oh my gosh it's happened again that's horrific yeah it's how do you explain you know your family members are gone in an instant you're waiting for them to come down and now they're gone among those with the most poignant reactions the visitors from israel their countrymen ilan ramon was the first israeli astronaut on a u.s space mission it had been the rare occasion for national happiness in these tumultuous times but now that's a great loss it's a tragedy as an israeli i mourn and grieve with the families and friends of the crew that was lost of course with the israeli american people so it's a bad day but i hope in the future it'll have a more successful ending than this one the muted sadness here at this impromptu shrine to the disaster was echoed nearly everywhere pure shock disbelief this is unreal i mean you come out here expecting to see a shuttle lane and it's just not there we feel so sad and sorry for the families of [Music] people that have been lost as the tragedy sank in the first flowers appeared at the museum's model of columbia the flowers are expected to grow tomorrow uh it's in a certain way anderson's space flight even here has been considered routine because there have been so many years of safe returns until now anderson bob you know it's uh looking at the biography of a lot of these astronauts and not only do they have extraordinary resumes extraordinary careers and interests behind them but just about every one of them from the time they were a child they dreamed of being an astronaut i'm interested to see if you ran into any kids today at the museum and and got any sense of whether or not this

01:40:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=6000s)

got any sense of whether or not this kind of thing diminishes their interest in space their enthusiasm for for you know dreaming of one day being an astronaut you know it was it is such a good question and it's the first thing you do think of as as you were talking to the children i talked to any number of them uh little girls and little boys and a lot of them said yes at one time that is something they wanted to do but none of them said that this would cause them not to do it they said as a matter of fact on a couple of occasions that it would sort of rededicate them i was i was really quite moved by the very very mature reaction i got from so many of the kids who expressed a very very quiet somber reaction of course shock and all that kind of stuff but said almost to a person that all this means is the space program must go forward it makes me think too of of i remember seeing a cn cnn report at some time in the last two weeks or so about a group of kids in seattle who were they had an experiment with ants in an ant farm that was actually on this shuttle i can only wonder what uh what they are thinking at this moment bob franken thanks a lot nice report thank you oh we're going to go back to michael bond who we talked to just a few moments ago in washington uh the man who was director of what they call the sit room the situation room in in the white house he was director of the situation room back in 1986 when the space shuttle challenger had met its disaster um michael thanks for coming back with us i'm curious to know what you think went on in the sit room in the white house today before president bush was summoned back from camp david sure every time a crisis breaks over the white house horizon the duty officers kind of go into automatic they they know what to do and they know how to handle things like this and in my research for my book nerve center i realized that the process really hasn't changed much since the cuban missile crisis the first thing they do is alert everyone on the white house staff what they know about and then they try to get more information

01:42:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=6121s)

to get more information uh were there any survivors was there a terrorist angle to it and then they get ready for the phone calls you've mentioned on several occasions that the president called ariel sharon the situation room organizes all calls from the president to foreign heads of state so they knew they were going to get ready for that and they were the ones that organized the president's return calls to all the foreign foreign heads of states that called with their condolences then they knew they probably would probably be involved in the connection of the president to the families helping the white house switchboard and the white house communications agency get that connection to those people once things slowed down a little bit they probably sat down and wrote a summary of what happened what they knew about uh so far and sent that upstairs it's a pretty set routine for them whether it's a challenger explosion or today's event or a terrorist incident and i suppose in a situation like this uh knowing what you don't know is almost as important as knowing what you know you have to report negatives because a partial report suggests there might be something else out there so every time you tell somebody upstairs what you know you tell them what you don't know and how hard you're trying to get it and is it a scene of i mean you talked about it almost being a routine uh obviously uh you and and and the people who are in the situation room now are professionals but i mean is there is there adrenaline is there excitement is there fear what is it like oh absolutely um and there's many examples of that over the years when reagan was shot there was a good bit of confusion and fear and and ignorance in that room other instances are just as bad at 9 11 there was a good bit of fear because everyone evacuated the white house except the sit room staff and people gravitate to the sit room during these circumstances

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during these circumstances mainly to find out what's going on pick up on the latest talk to so and so it's uh it's not only the white house alert center it often times turns into the white house help desk but it does michael bond i appreciate you you coming back and talking with us a rare look inside a room a lot of people have heard about i appreciate your perspective thank you very much michael bond thanks we're going to go now to a uh one of the last interviews that miles o'brien did with with four of the astronauts who were bored today's flight of the columbia i believe this is an interview he did with the four who while they were in orbit while they were in space took place just a couple days ago take a look say hello to the crew of the space shuttle columbia now traveling above the pacific at 17 300 miles an hour 150 miles above us waving to us

let's give you an idea of who's who this is ilan ramone the first israeli ever to fly in space kapanachala mission specialist on her second mission rick husband the commander second mission laurel clark another space rookie bookended by space rookies here uh commander husband let's talk first of all about how everything's going i got a menagerie of animals up there too many scientific experiments to enumerate here but generally speaking how's it going well things are going really great miles we're having a great time up here we had a great ride to orbit and uh all the activation of the experiments and the space hub went extremely well and we're really uh we've got our space legs and uh up and running send it over to colonel ramon please uh colonel ramon um i'm curious what it was like when you had that opportunity on one of those early passes to look down at uh your home country in the middle east in general what were your thoughts at that time i was telling the truth it was uh pretty

01:46:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=6360s)

i was telling the truth it was uh pretty fast it was actually today and uh it went too fast it was it was uh party or mostly cloudy so i couldn't see much of israel just the north of israel and of course i was excited what are your thoughts now that you're in space about uh what uh it represents to your nation i think it's a great start and it's it's an opening for uh great science from uh our nation and uh hopefully for uh uh our neighbors in the middle east was the launch what you expected the launch was pretty exciting yeah a lot of noise shaking but after uh about a minute or so we got used to it and it went pretty smoothly was very tight a lot of concern before you ever uh fired off those solid rocket boosters did you ever how aware of that were you uh how much of an added concern was that for you well since uh national security and the county security were unbelievable and helpful i didn't have any uh doubt that everything will go so uh pretty good and so did it so it is and i was aware of it uh i got my family and i knew exactly what's going on there it's interesting when you consider the risks astronauts take to be concerned about that on top of anything else send it over to uh mission specialist i'm just curious um if you could share for us uh a moment of what it's like being in that space have it's a scientific

01:48:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=6480s)

that space have it's a scientific juggling act isn't it simultaneously um but it's like fun it's very stimulating and we are enjoying it the module is uh quite big roomy and uh we were able to put it in very good configuration for our work on the very first day so it's been working out really well and let's send it over to laurel clark um laurel those are all these experiments working you have 80 some experiments they couldn't all be working as planned well things are going very smoothly as expected there's some minor glitches and uh the eight minutes that it took us to get to orbit we trained months and months before and didn't have to use any of that preparation other than being aware and ready for our science experiments on the other hand uh it's very fortunate that we've had such thorough training since we've been excellent team on the ground with the minor glitches that have occurred we've been able to take care of them and the teams tell us on the ground they're getting tons of incredible data let's close with colonel ramone i have an email question for you colonel this comes from great britain uh don't you think it would have been a powerful evocation uh and image of humanity if you had flown with a palestinian or an arab crew member and he wishes good fortune to you had you thought much about that well as you probably know uh an arab uh man already flew at the 80s in the 80s so i'm not the first one from there and um i feel like i represent first of all of course states of israel and the jews but i represent also all our neighbors and i hope

01:50:02 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=6602s)

also all our neighbors and i hope it will contribute to the whole world world and especially to our middle east uh neighbors all right we're gonna have to leave it at that the crew or at least a portion the awakened crew of the columbia there are some of them asleep right now three of them in bunks in the mid deck uh thanks very much for taking a little bit of time while you're on orbit to uh visit us from the flight duck of the space shuttle columbia we wish you well as this space marathon 24 7. oh my goodness look at that little chalice going by there anyway thanks very much and you have a great mission we appreciate it it's always fun to watch that

[Music] very sad indeed we have just received some a sound bite from the father of colonel ilan ramon the israeli astronaut who perished today aboard the space shuttle colombia the father his name is eliezer wolferman he spoke earlier today from israel here's some of what he had to say i can't believe it's happened he was so happy for him he is top of his life and that's what's happening i i have a connection with him in email yeah and just two days ago i got the last email from him and he was so happy and he said that he's so happy that he doesn't want to come back to us and he didn't come back to us yeah we are gonna go now to um representative dana rohrbacher who is uh in irvine california he is on

01:52:02 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=6722s)

who is uh in irvine california he is on the subcommittee for nasa representative robrock we appreciate you joining us at this difficult time your thoughts well thank you very much i know that today many americans were shocked and surprised and are saddened certainly but you know the astronauts they have always understood that this is a space flight is a tremendous risk and i think many americans fully didn't appreciate that risk and they you know nasa has done such a great job and the astronauts do a great job our aerospace industry does a great job and he made it look like there was less risk than there is and uh now we know that uh this is not to be taken for granted but i know that the astronauts and the other people who've lost their lives before uh and have risked their lives before would want us to pause for a moment and reflect upon it and correct any problems that there are but they want us to make sure that we are continuing to move forward america along with the other good people of the world uh we're going to lead the whole human race in the into space and because there's so many good things that we can accomplish there as we go forward as the days become weeks and the weeks become months and we move on to the investigation phase what do you want to see what do what has to come out of an investigation well there's a number of things that we have to consider and first and foremost anyone who made a bad decision yes they should be held accountable even if they didn't intentionally do something wrong if it's a bad decision they have to be held accountable if there was a technological flaw we have to come to grips with that so i i think the best way to do that however would be through an independent uh panel of people perhaps led by someone like john glenn who has the technical expertise but plus the prestige and the time to focus totally on this

01:54:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=6840s)

and the time to focus totally on this issue but the most important thing to come out of it isn't perhaps that you know the fault or who made a mistake and because we're going to correct the mistakes and we're going to hold people accountable but we've got to know that space policy has got to come off of the back burner space policy has been something that uh well for the last 10 years has been something that it hasn't been given the attention it deserves considering the fact that there's so much potential of what can be done and uh uh right now we're we are reliant on an ancient fleet a fleet of shuttles that and colombia was the oldest one of them that were designed 35 and 40 years ago and uh that's that's not fair to our astronauts and it's something that if we have the right kind of attention we could actually propel humankind into space and do great things there for all of us so in a sense rather than slowing down the space program you would hope that if anything this event focuses greater attention on it and propels the space program uh into the next century well we are right now in the last century in terms of american space program as i say the shuttle technology is something that was uh new back in the late 60s and early 70s so but from especially in the last 10 years uh that the leaders have had other other things that concern them to be fair to president bush since 9 11 we had a very serious national security uh challenge that has taken up his time and effort but we should now as a people decide that we are going to commit ourselves to utilizing space and we to do that we've got to develop the technologies that will permit us new transportation systems for example the space shuttle engine is exactly the same kind of engine that they had uh 35 years ago when the shuttle was first designed

01:56:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=6960s)

first designed we should be developing new propulsion systems should be bringing down the cost of getting into space and then committing ourselves to using space for the benefit of all humankind representative rohrbracker we appreciate you joining us this evening a very difficult day for for all of us appreciate your your thoughts at this time thanks very much i want to just remind our viewers in just a few moments at 8 o'clock we have a special edition wolf blitzer judy woodruff miles o'brien a lot of cnn people here have been working all day on this hope you join us for that that starts in about uh about four minutes from now i also want to show you a little bit about how the seven astronauts aboard the space shuttle columbia woke up today what they heard on this the last day of their [Applause] [Music] [Applause] lives [Applause] [Music] [Applause] [Music] [Applause] [Music] [Applause] so [Applause] [Music] [Applause] [Music] [Applause] so [Applause] [Music] [Applause] [Music]

01:58:02 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=7082s)

[Music] [Applause] so [Music] [Applause] [Music] good morning to the red team that was scotland the brave for laurel well good morning houston we are getting ready for a big day up here had a great time on orbit and really excited to come back home hearing that song reminds me of all the different places down on earth and all the friends and family that i have all over the world thanks and it's been great working with you and all the other folks the voice of laura clark age 41 one of the seven brave astronauts aboard the space shuttle columbia who died today reminded what ronald reagan said in 1986 after the challenger disaster he said the future does not belong to the faint-hearted it belongs to the brave and brave these seven were i'm anderson cooper that's it for me stay tuned in about one minute special report from cnn she's the first one in the family to go to college full scholarship four years thing is it's 25 miles away we're household and we've helped over 700 000 people who need cars get cars because for nearly 125 years we've understood the hopes and financial needs of everyday people household helping everyday people

02:00:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=7200s)

everyday people every day mr stevens yeah got you down for over 130 channels 39.99 a month right so every channel is digital quality there's access to 31 premium movie channels 60 pay-per-view movie titles a month great so that can go on the back of the roof yeah sure yeah good uh let's go ahead and pull around back you work for the cable company huh yeah yeah why settle for cable switch to directv and get over 130 channels only 39.99 a month call 1-800 direct tv or visit a participating retailer now what is it it's a magic business lamp we got it in the merger you rub it and the business genie grants you three wishes cut overhead increase efficiency improve service rub the land [Applause] yeah it's for you [Music] hi columbia houston we see your tire pressure messages and we did not copy your last roger the final moments before a national tragedy heading home shuttle columbia breaks up in midair at nine o'clock this morning mission control in houston lost contact with our space shuttle columbia a short time later debris was seen falling from the skies above texas the columbia's lost there are no survivors seven crew members lost nasa officials begin a daunting investigation my promise to the crew and the crew families is that the investigation that we have just launched

02:02:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=7320s)

just launched will find the cause we'll fix it and then we'll move on tonight a cnn special report columbia a shuttle tragedy from the cnn center in atlanta here's miles o'brien good evening in the 42 years of u.s human space flight there had never been a fatal accident during the descent to earth or in landing but this morning that all changed sixteen minutes before it was scheduled to touch down in florida at the kennedy space center the space shuttle columbia fell apart in the skies over texas you're looking at some animation developed through the good graces of analytical graphics and what you see is the general scenario that occurs on re-entry as a space shuttle returns from space traveling at some seventeen thousand five hundred miles an hour breaking its way toward the uh runway at the kennedy space center in the florida peninsula pitching nose high up presenting to the the strongest portion of the heat those black tiles there to insulate the space shuttle which is after all an aluminum frame aircraft from the 3000 degree heat of re-entry it was at the

absolute apex of that heat mach 18 200 000 feet and change when the space shuttle columbia disintegrated high over texas this uh scenario is being watched very closely in houston right now there is a mission evaluation team right now pouring over data which was captured immediately after it became apparent that there was a catastrophic failure of the space shuttle columbia i'm told that mission managers will be looking very closely and the engineers will be looking closely at what happened to the elevons these are the flaps in the rear portion of the space shuttle columbia there is some indication not based on the preliminary preliminary look at the data that there was some unusual movement by these elevons perhaps something that might have caused an abrupt maneuver very early in this investigation but that is one of the things being looked

02:04:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=7440s)

that is one of the things being looked at as they burn the midnight oil in houston in the mission evaluation room uh in the morning there will be a series of meetings 8 a.m local time 9 a.m 10 a.m series of management meetings and engineering meetings to look at the data preliminarily get a sense of where they're headed and then in the noon hour central time they will report back to reporters with another briefing to give us a better sense of where they're headed with this investigation still obviously in the very early hours coming up in the next hour this program extensive coverage of the columbia tragedy and what might have gone wrong also anchoring tonight's coverage wolf blitzer live at the johnson space center in houston lou dobbs from the kennedy space center in florida and following the bush administration's reaction judy woodruff in washington first let's quickly update you on the very latest all future space shuttle flights are now on hold until nasa gets a better grip on what went so terribly wrong this morning as you see in these pictures breaking up south of dallas space agency officials say not to worry though about crew members still aboard the international space station they have enough supplies to last until june fema the federal emergency management agency has been put in charge of recovering and collecting the debris over a tremendously wide swath of the continental united states the military has been called in to help that search they're concentrating on eastern texas bits and pieces of the shuttle pieces of the shuttle have also been found in parts of louisiana and experts say that because columbia broke up at 200 000 feet the debris field could extend to even into arkansas arizona and new mexico outside nasa headquarters and at the white house flags flying at half-staff a tribute to the seven astronauts on board the space shuttle columbia many of the crew's relatives were at the kennedy space center excitedly waiting the touchdown a touchdown which never came after a 16-day science mission which by all accounts was nearly flawless this was the 28th mission for the space shuttle columbia focused on science as

02:06:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=7561s)

shuttle columbia focused on science as we told you and israel's first astronaut in space three two one we have booster ignition and liftoff of space shuttle columbia with a multitude of national and international space research experiments 10 39 a.m january 16th columbia takes off now controlling the flight of columbia the international research mission finally underway commander rick husband joined on the flight deck by pilot willie mccool flight engineer colt nachovla mission specialist dave brown mission specialist laurel clark payload commander mike anderson and payload specialist ilon ramon seated down on the mid deck 10 41 a.m about 80 seconds into the flight a piece of debris on the external fuel tank comes off hitting the underside of the orbiter left wing there is some concern about overheating during reentry if enough tiles are knocked loose but after studying the images frame by frame nasa engineers decide to continue the mission 3 10 pm january 25th one week into the mission the crew gives cnn an update from space here we had a great ride to orbit and all the activation of the experiments and the space hub went extremely well and we're really we've got our space legs and up and running another week passes saturday morning february 1st the crew is just hours from returning home good morning houston we're getting ready for a big day up here had a great time on orbit and really excited to come back home 8 15 a.m while still in orbit columbia fires its breaking rockets its touchdown sequence is underway it begins re-entry 8 59 a.m mission control hears from columbia for the last time in columbia houston we see your tire pressure messages and we did not copy your last

02:08:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=7681s)

[Applause] roger 9 a.m just 16 minutes away from its scheduled touchdown on florida's east coast mission control in houston loses all data and voice contact with columbia the shuttle is seen in the skies above dallas texas at this point the spacecraft is roughly two hundred three thousand feet above the earth traveling about twelve thousand five hundred miles an hour residents across texas arkansas and louisiana see what nasa is not yet talking about we were woken up by this rumble but today we were trying to sleep in on saturday and we heard this um sounded like a train going through our property the dog started barking and then got shook like tripped the earth and we've seen large masses of pieces coming off of the shadow i'm devastated devastated it's unbelievable and the national weather service even picks up these images on radar that is the wreckage of the shuttle columbia coming through 9 20 quiet disbelief in the control room in houston and from onlookers at the kennedy space center we're shocked we're we at a loss for words we don't know what to think we feel so sad and sorry for the families of people that have been lost just hope uh they're with god 9 29 a.m nasa declares an emergency calls reporting debris hitting the ground flood police nasa and newsroom phones 9 44 a.m nasa warns residents to stay away from the debris which could be dangerous because of toxins and the propellants used 11 am a flag at the kennedy space center next to the countdown clock is lowered to half staff 1 30 pm nasa administrator sean o'keefe we

02:10:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=7800s)

nasa administrator sean o'keefe we trust the prayers of the nation will be with them and with their families and again a more courageous group of people you could not have hoped to know than the families of these crew members an extraordinary extraordinary group of astronauts who gave their lives 205 the president addresses the nation delivering the greatest news this day has brought terrible news in great sadness to our country the colombia is lost there are no survivors at mission control in houston the first indication of trouble this morning was the loss of temperature sensors on columbia's left wing almost as if the plug had been pulled this was followed within seconds by a series of other problems will blitzer joining us live now from the johnson space center in houston wolf miles as you well know this is a small family all the people involved in this mission control operation here and there is tremendous sadness especially severe sadness here because the seven astronauts had trained here in houston at the johnson space center their families by and large were here they had spent a long time getting ready for this mission and everyone here is a as they've said to me the words can't describe how upset how sad they are at what's going on and spontaneous memorial services are erupting even outside the gates of the johnson space center here in houston texas now they are urging the public to try to help if they can they know there are hundreds perhaps thousands of pieces of debris out there they know that the public saw the images of the debris landing in central texas northern texas all over here all the way over to louisiana they are asking anyone has any film any video there's two ways of getting in touch with nasa officials you can either call them at a number we've been putting up on the screen 281-483-3388

02:12:02 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=7922s)

on the screen 281-483-3388 i'll repeat that 281-483 or you can email them if you believe you have some information that could help the investigators their email address is columbia images nasa.gov columbia images all one word at nasa.gov now adela andera has been out there in texas he's been talking to people who've seen some of the debris at lavendaires joining us now live from nacogdoches and tell us what you've seen and what you've heard well wolf what we've seen throughout the day is many people actually closer to the dallas fort worth area many people were paying attention to this shuttle landing today just kind of the course of events today kind of everything lined up nicely it was a beautiful day here weather-wise in in texas and many people were able to see one of those great moments where you could see the space shuttle streaking across the state of texas as as it was headed toward florida for its final approach and so a lot of people watching uh the live coverage on the local newscast that as the shuttle was streaking overhead here so that was a very strange moment not something a very unique moment i should say not a chance a lot of people get to see so we're about three and a half hours southeast of the dallas fort worth area and about

another three hours north of houston to kind of pinpoint you and we're in this in the center of nacogdoches texas and this has kind of become a a nerve center if you will for a lot of people who have come here and the reason they're here is this one parking lot is there's just a a three by three foot piece of debris there and this is very significant of what we've seen and throughout the the east texas area and people's uh backyards driveways sidewalks uh the back roads of east texas have seen small parts of debris like this scattered all over the place and we've seen uh the areas cordoned off just like this and many many times we've often seen uh private landowners they're doing the same waiting for authorities to come by and pick up this material we understand that the trying to line up the process by how exactly they're going to do this i've also had a chance to speak with other

02:14:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=8040s)

also had a chance to speak with other people who say that they have seen debris in the back of their businesses or in their homes as well and that i guess there's just so many calls that have been coming into the authorities here in the east texas area that has been impossible to get somebody out to all of these locations at this point so far so there's a lot of work still left to do here well do people understand by and large how dangerous it is these toxic propellants as they call it that if anybody gets too close or touches the kind of debris they could be in trouble by and large has that message gotten through you know for the most part i have seen that uh you'll be driving around the neighborhood and you'll see a debris a piece of debris on the ground and what you'll see is a lot of people gather it around but they'll probably they'll keep a safe distance from it not touching it a lot of people taking pictures of it but for the most part i think that word has gotten out that people should stay away and it is of course the property of the united states government it would be a crime for anyone to take any of that debris with them cnn's joining us from nacogdoches and texas thanks very much and miles when i throw it back to you the as you well know the investigators want to collect as much of that debris as possible it's unclear whether they're going to try to recreate as best they can the columbia but they do want that debris because there could be some telltale signs what exactly caused this horrible explosion miles well wolf as you well know it's not an overstatement to say that this thing could be unlocked the puzzle could be solved by simply one piece so we encourage people if they see pieces to let nasa know who knows what the significance of that piece might be we're going to take a short break and when we return we're going to go to washington check in with judy woodruff and talk about the president and the political implications of all this as nasa embarks on efforts to fly one day again and we'll also check in with lou dobbs who is at the kennedy space center where columbia left 16 days ago in a blaze of glory stay with us

02:16:05 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=8165s)

with us [Music] the best-selling new mail artist of the year is josh groban [Music] his debut album has already sold over three million copies [Music] featuring the stunning singles you're still you and to where you are josh groban his debut album available now at best buy what have you been up to mr money back it's okay i put it on the credit card those interest chargers are gonna get us don't worry it's our new capital one no hassle card [Music] check your mailbox today for capital one's no hassle card offer great low rates and none of the hassle mr stevens yeah got you down for over 130 channels 39.99 a month right so every channel is digital quality there's access to 31 premium movie channels 60 pay-per-view movie titles a month great so that can go on the back of the roof yeah sure yeah good uh let's go ahead and pull around back you work for the cable company huh yeah yeah why settle for cable switch to directv and get over 130 channels only 39.99 a month call 1-800 directv or visit a participating retailer now we all knew what happened we just didn't

02:18:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=8280s)

we all knew what happened we just didn't know how that's the words of one nasa worker from houston today as they consider what happened as the space shuttle columbia came in on what seemed like the flawless conclusion to a nearly flawless mission let's continue our coverage as we turn our attention now to washington and to florida and a story that really spans the entire country lou dobbs at the kennedy space

center but first judy woodruff in washington judy that's right thank you miles and it has been a full day and a very difficult day for president george w bush who as we know until just lately has his main focus has been pressing the u.s case against iraq well today the president has talked by telephone with the families of the lost astronauts he has spoken words of consolation to the rest of the country to all of us cnn's white house correspondent suzanne malveaux has been at the white house all this day following development suzanne but judy tonight leaders around the world are offering their condolences to the white house as president bush marks this tragic day with reflection mourning and prayer in honor of those lost the flag at the white house president bush once again testing one two three testing one two three four five nation together in time of tragedy this day has brought terrible news and great sadness to our country testing one two three four five at nine o'clock this morning mission control in houston lost contact with our space shuttle columbia a short time later debris was seen falling from the skies above texas the columbia is lost there are no survivors six americans and one israeli lost people the president said assumed great risk in the service to all humanity the cause in which they died will continue mankind has led into the darkness beyond

02:20:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=8400s)

mankind has led into the darkness beyond our world by the inspiration of discovery and the longing to understand our journey into space will go on just after nine o'clock this morning at camp david president bush is notified by his chief of staff that nasa has lost contact with the shuttle at 10 30 he's briefed by nasa's director and decides to return to the white house early the situation room at the white house goes into full gear notifying all the principals by 12 30 the president is back in the oval office when nasa's director tells him there are no survivors 15 minutes later mr bush standing at his desk holds a conference call with the victims families who are gathered around a speaker phone at the kennedy space center he tells them we express our love and appreciation for all those who died today i want the loved ones to know there are millions of americans praying for you including me and laura it's an incredibly tough day for you may god bless you all i wish i was there to hug cry and comfort you right now an appointed moment a white house aide who was with the president says after the call a somber mr bush briefly excused himself to the executive residents the president also called israeli prime minister ariel sharon to offer his condolences for the israeli astronaut lost and the president received calls from world leaders from mexico canada and even those recently at odds with the president over a stand with iraq france and russia and judy today was a big day for the department of homeland security its new secretary governor tom ridge able to quickly assess and gather information assigned fema the lead role in recovery and also to reassure the american people that as tragic as this disaster was it was not the result of terrorism judy all right thank you suzanne at the same time they are saying they are pressing ahead with the case against iraq that will continue well as you've been hearing from my colleague miles o'brien nasa's engineers are already hard at work trying to

02:22:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=8521s)

are already hard at work trying to solve the mystery of what happened to the shuttle columbia but a number of other federal agencies are also involved in the investigation and for that part of the story we're going to bring in our patty davis patty well judy fema is heading the response and recovery effort other agencies are heading south to take part in the investigation the debris strewn across several states is crucial to finding what caused the accident we are going to gather every piece we can find treat this much like an aircraft incident and see if we can solve the puzzle finding the pieces is a massive undertaking but an essential one if the cause is structural debris could provide the key clues they can then piece that together to figure out how it came apart and then that will help them figure out where the cause was that's why officials are appealing to the public to turn over any pictures people took of the shuttle falling and to turn in any pieces found if you find debris please call local authorities immediately to tell them of the location the federal emergency management agency is coordinating the federal government's response and recovery the military guarding and searching for debris using planes boats and helicopters the faa instituting a 40-mile wide 160-mile long restricted zone below 3000 feet from texas to louisiana to protect aircraft involved in the recovery the national transportation safety board sending vehicle structure and system experts to help ntsb crash

investigators helped piece together debris from the in-flight breakup of the twa 800 crash this debris field as much as 100 times bigger this is going to be an extraordinarily challenging investigation the the vehicle was at 200 000 feet it was traveling at 12 hundred miles per

02:24:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=8640s)

it was traveling at 12 hundred miles per hour there simply has never been uh a breakup uh like like this in uh aviation or space history in addition to debris nasa says the shuttle had data and voice recorders but more importantly it was constantly streaming information to mission control we are preserving hardware around the country in our different facilities we are impounding data here that represented the last data that we received from the crew and we'll we will be pouring over that data 24 hours a day besides nasa's own investigation an independent group including the military the faa will also look into what happened an investigation that could take months if not years judy all right patty davis thanks very much when you think about it miles it seems almost a miracle that any pieces survived from that altitude and at that speed judy what i've seen is there aren't many very big pieces that is for sure uh just 12 hours ago hundreds of people were gathering at the kennedy space center to see the shuttle landing their excitement quickly turned to shock cnn's lou dobbs is at kennedy lou miles as you say shock and the shock is still being felt profoundly here by everyone who works at nasa and who works with nasa the the nasa administrator sean o'keefe has spent much of the day comforting the families of the seven astronauts who who lost their lives today aboard colombia he has also spent much of his time learning as much as possible about what the nasa engineers managers and investigators know to this point and he has been briefing congressional leaders amongst them house majority leader tom delay and congressman dave weldon uh and i want to turn now if i made to john zarrella my colleague here who's covered the space

02:26:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=8760s)

covered the space program for some time this represents something of a departure does it not uh sean o'keefe has really opened up the process and is sharing information which has not always been the first reflux of this agency right exactly and certainly back in in 1986 that that really was not the case back in 1986 it was far more of a closed family here and they kept the information very close to the vest for for quite some time but an open process here certainly john i've just been told that our colleague gary tuchman uh is is available gary let's go to you quickly it works for nasa that's why what's happening today we come to you from the sunrise diner in cocoa beach just south of the cape where people are obviously talking about what happened today right here we have mike and joanna mike you were telling me that joanna who's your friend called you to tell you about the shuttle explosion what did you think when you first heard that ah at first i didn't believe it you know shock and amazement and then when i seen it was true you think about the families and all that very sad thing you tell me when you live here you just take for granted that the missions will all go okay yeah i mean i when i first moved down here it was all we had to watch everyone come in and then you just take for granted that they'll get here safely and this time they didn't thanks for talking with us we want to go over here this is frank in maryland frank and maryland live in new york state half the year and they live here half the year and maryland was telling me that regularly they go out on their balcony in the ocean here when the shuttle takes off and when it lands right that's right it's very exciting and being away from this area i don't take it for granted i think it's so exciting to watch the shuttles and the rockets go up and we're on our balcony every single time including this morning right including this morning we were there at nine o'clock and i was

02:28:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=8880s)

we were there at nine o'clock and i was looking out looking at people on the beach and waiting for the sound of that beautiful i'm i'm just really sad about this whole thing but i i just my heart goes out to all of the people involved the families especially their children and i i feel very sadly because they have a hero in india and especially the united states i just i'm so sad for all of them i think they're all heroes frank and marilyn thank you very much for talking with me it's obviously very emotional for the nation for the world but particularly for

the people here in the space coast of florida lou back to you gary thank you very much gary tuckman in cocoa beach florida now back to you myles all right thank you very much lou a check of the latest developments in today's shuttle strategy is tragedy just ahead and the question burning on so many minds tonight what went wrong up there we'll have a closer look at what we know at this time obviously very early and where authorities are focusing their attention as they work through the night tonight mission control houston plus one of the crew members israel's first astronaut we'll have a live report from jerusalem from jerusalem for a man who is was a national hero in that country and later in their own words family members who are expecting their loved ones to return home to earth this morning their thoughts and their feelings on this terribly tragic day [Music] [Applause]

02:30:08 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=9008s)

[Music] ever wonder why people who work at quest will go to such great lengths to help a customer for my father and my uncle for three generations of mcleods for my grandfather who believed in the spirit of service back in 1919 in many cases they watched a granddad or mother working hard as they lived the spirit of service and said count me in for the technicians that go out despite the conditions and climb our towers our spirit of service goes back four proud generations you're born into it for my grandparents i wish they were here to see their company make history again they'd be proud of us and every day they come to work and grab that bar those great generations before them set so high and raise it even higher doing whatever it takes spirit of service you never lose it quest folks love their work and they fully intend to make our heritage a part of your future [Music] the saab 93 sport sedan just received a five-star rating for collision safety performance from the european new car assessment program [Music] welcome back investigators from the national transportation safety board nasa the military and other federal agencies are trying to determine why the space shuttle columbia broke apart this

02:32:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=9121s)

space shuttle columbia broke apart this morning in the sky over texas all seven astronauts aboard were lost columbia was at an altitude of some 39 miles traveling twelve thousand five hundred miles an hour when it broke into fiery pieces it was absolutely the hottest point of re-entry three thousand degrees fahrenheit parts of the shuttle had been found in east texas and louisiana some pieces were so hot that they caused fires as you see here the spacecraft was so high the debris field may extend into new mexico and arizona parts of what authorities suspect our human remains also have been found now as for the cause several minutes before the breakup there were some sensors on columbia's left wing they began failing temperature sensors specifically toward the rear portion of the wing others registered high temperatures and there are reports that there were some unusual movements of the flaps at the back called elevons memories have gone back to launch day when cameras saw a piece of foam insulation from the fuel tank breaking off hitting columbia's left wing the shuttle program manager ron dittemore says at this point not a smoking gun but he adds we cannot discount that there may be a connection and we should tell you the person who will be heading this investigation nasa has named a retired admiral who also headed the investigation into the explosion on board the uss cole in yemen to lead the investigation his name is admiral harold hal gemin and he will lead this independent investigation into determining the cause of the disintegration of the space shuttle columbia we will keep you posted on that a team of experts from the national transportation safety board is heading for barksdale air force base in louisiana that's where nasa has set up a command post the ntsb will help the space agency in what is expected to be a lengthy and difficult investigation of this morning's disaster first things first nasa starts

02:34:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=9240s)

first things first nasa starts eliminating possible causes we have no indication that the mishap was caused by anything or anyone on the ground from there the potential causes are innumerable given the one million parts and complex operations that go into any shuttle mission as rocket scientists like to say it's always what you do not expect because if you thought of it you'd have fixed it one of the space shuttle program's greatest

achievements was the development of the insulating tiles that protect the shuttle on re-entry of them on each shuttle made of silica fiber they are cool to the touch just seconds after being exposed to a 2200 degree kiln while they have been a great achievement they have been a continuing problem for shuttle managers they are brittle and can easily be knocked off during launch the shuttle can land if some insulating tiles are damaged or break off as seen here on the space shuttle discovery but if too many tiles are gone the shuttle would get too hot the heat could actually cause the structure of the orbiter to break during columbia's launch a piece of insulation from the external fuel tank broke off and perhaps damaged some ceramic tiles but shuttle managers determined it was safe for the mission to continue we can't discount discount that there might be a connection but we have to caution you and ourselves that that we can't rush to judgment on it another likely point of focus for investigators the attitude of the shuttle on reentry if the nose goes too high or too low the shuttle could tumble and break up the belly of the shuttle is well protected but if you get in the wrong orientation any moment during that re-entry uh you are not protected on all sides and so you know once you start coming apart there's there's nothing you can do columbia was the oldest shuttle just last year engineers found stress and age cracks in shuttle engine parts while those problems experts say are not likely to be the cause of this disaster

02:36:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=9361s)

likely to be the cause of this disaster there could be some other unforeseen age-related problem with the shuttle whatever the cause there may be clues in the data transmitted from the shuttle before communication was lost we will be pouring over that data 24 hours a day for the foreseeable future nasa has undertaken major investigations several times before the last after the challenger disaster randy averro worked on that investigation into why the challenger disintegrated over the ocean shortly after liftoff what we do not have as far as we know today on on the columbia crash today is close up telescopic photos and videos of the actual effects that were taking place on the orbiter the first job finding all the pieces that can be found looking for clues in the fields forests and backyards of eastern texas and western louisiana not many people have experience investigating this kind of catastrophe to say the least two of our guests this evening do however they both investigated the challenger accident 17 years ago with me here in atlanta randy avera a former nasa engineer and joining us from boston eugene covert an engineer and educator who served on the presidential commission on the challenger accident randy i'd like to begin with you let's talk first about about this debris uh comparing this huge swath of land where debris has been rained down compare that to the challenge of trying to lift debris off the ocean floor which is a greater challenge for the team well both have their own unique challenges but the large area of land mass today is certainly a different challenge from that of 1986 when the many elements of the coast guard navy seals and u.s navy were diving down in about a hundred feet or so of the atlantic ocean water to retrieve the evidence from the floor of the ocean as well as collecting it off the surface

02:38:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=9480s)

as well as collecting it off the surface of the ocean uh headed northbound in the gulf stream currents there are many more people that are able at this point today to find components that are lying on the ground so it will be something we look back at comparing the two to see which collected the evidence most efficiently all right eugene covert would you concur with that i mean one of the concerns of course is that people will take souvenirs and that that souvenir might very well be the smoking gun well by and large i would agree however i i believe that with the activity on the surface of the earth the bottom of the ocean is possible that the dredges and so forth would cover up bits and pieces that might turn out to be important i think that the possibility of finding something useful is possibly higher because it's over land because there's so many people involved of course one of the the problems may be that somebody's trying to sneak a souvenir away i understand that's a federal offense and probably you don't want to mess with the feds to do it not only that very hazardous randy i want to call your attention to something i just found out i was working the phones here when i had a little break and if you look at these two flaps these are movable surfaces on the trailing edge of the wing they're called elevons it controls the pitch the up down uh motion of the nose relative to its forward motion uh i'm told that prior to those problems with the heat sensors uh left wing this this area here

there were some unusual elevon movements that they're looking at right now as as we speak pouring over the data what would that tell you well it could tell us one of a couple of things it could be that that elevon movement was due to commands that were being sent to the elevons from the

02:40:02 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=9602s)

were being sent to the elevons from the onboard general purpose computers if the inertial measurement system of the orbiter which monitors the attitude of the orbiter and roll pitch and yaw rates if it was issuing a command or a series of commands to drive those elevons into dynamic positions that would just be a response from a command on the other hand if the hydraulic actuators which drive the elevons there are four elevens two on each wing and each elevon has a large hydraulic actuator if those actuators had any malfunctions or failures within the hydraulic actuator that could also be an issue but nasa will be separating these into various categories looking at the data looking at the flight data and reviewing the design and also service history repairs or or anything that may have been done to those elevon actuators or the actual rigging of the what are called flipper doors these are metal and composite material panels that are above the what we call the the wing cove area all right i want to get one more point in from eugene covert i'm sorry randy to cut you off but we are running short in time mr covert uh is there anything that you've seen in all of these briefings that catches your attention more than something else well i have to be uh frank about this one of the worst things you can do is speculate at a time like this it seems to me that there are enough opportunities to make a mistake and put your mouth your feet in your mouth nature provides you the opportunity now not to speculate and not to wait but to wait rather and tell some uh all right but let me ask you this short of speculating can do you feel fairly confident nasa will come up with the root cause of this i i certainly based on my previous experience i think that the odds are very high that they will come up with the root cause i think it's important to point out that

02:42:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=9720s)

i think it's important to point out that the reason you have a serious accident investigation of this kind is to find out what went wrong take those steps to to reduce the likelihood of having such an accident again i think that requires patience on the part of everybody i can understand why people are impatient but nevertheless i think that patience is required to give the investigators the chance to look at stuff coldly and look at the facts dispassionately and follow the clues to wherever they lead you eugene covert randy avera thank you very much for navigating what are very complex waters for the layperson we appreciate it one of the reasons we explore space is to push the boundaries of science and for the shuttle columbia 16 days in space it had been entirely devoted to scientific experiments not an exaggeration to say that years of preparation go into the experiments that are selected to fly on space shuttles the columbia carried experiments on changes in flame how flames spread in space and how flowers change their scent in the absence of gravity they also studied the effects of weightlessness on rats to learn more about how weightlessness affects humans long term they measured atmospheric dust to see what dust has to do with global warming that was the principal experiment of elan ramon the israeli astronaut there would be ant and spider behavior tests in weightlessness crystal growth with the hope of finding potential drugs which could cause cure things like cancer even tumor development in space was studied colon cancer specifically and there was a study on the evolution of life in the universe that had as its two principal investigators an israeli and a palestinian now along with the crew and shuttle columbia itself the knowledge gained on all these experiments vanished today in the skies over texas send it now to uh we're going to take a break we'll be back with more in just a

02:44:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=9841s)

break we'll be back with more in just a [Music] moment [Music] hmm [Music] so [Music] in a town called perfect the only crime is not having ice cream on your pie elevator music isn't the usual carpets never stop and the local bank has hundreds of branches of course we don't live anywhere near perfect so there's walgreens open every day many 24 hours with everything needed for the real world that's life this is walgreens we need to go somewhere besides the family room [Music] medium albuquerque [Music]

travelocity's biggest cruise sale ever is going on now i know what that means it means get off your big bottom and take us on a trip try velocity cod or seaside for details introducing new america online 8.0 with hundreds of new features there's never been a better time to try it you've got mail with 8.0 i can customize my email aol's new parental controls i can set up for each one of my children now aol surgeries are faster than ever with google the customer service is free and it's 24 hours a day call now and get 1025 free hours for 45 days there's no commitment and you don't even need a credit card america online has so much more new aol

02:46:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=9960s)

america online has so much more new aol 8.0 with hundreds of new features there's never been a better time to try [Music] it flags flying at half staff over the executive office building right next door to the white house earlier today president bush remembered colombia's last crew of seven for their courage he said their daring and their idealism for four of them this was their first trip into space two were colonels both with the air force one american the other israeli ilan ramon was his country's first astronaut he joined nasa as a payload specialist in 1997 married with four children ramon was 48 years old the commander of this mission was rick husband he had been an astronaut since 1994 and piloted the shuttle discovery just about four years ago husband leaves behind a wife and two children laurel clark was one of two doctors on this her first flight a mission specialist she was the mother of one william mccool was colombia's pilot age 41 and married he too was flying his first mission in space david brown was the other surgeon on board the shuttle a former college gymnast a mission specialist for the flight he was 46 years old the payload commander was michael anderson he flew aboard the shuttle endeavour in 1998 that took him to the mir space station anderson was married and 46 years old kalpana chala was a native of india she became an astronaut in 1994 she operated the shuttle's robotic arm on a mission three years later

02:48:04 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=10084s)

as we remember these astronauts some of their relatives have chosen to share their grief and their apprehensions with the public the parents of astronaut david brown told cnn that they hope the nation's space exploration will go forward but they said they're also afraid that today's loss was so catastrophic nothing would be found at the shuttle or of their sun there's nothing left to study we saw the debris come down in the newsreel photographs and i'd like to have something of dave to bury [Music] it may not happen so hard the sister of astronaut michael anderson was still in shock when she talked with reporters it hasn't set in yet it probably won't say i hear something very definite right now i'm not listening to the tv because they what they said was nothing that i guess i want to believe because there's nothing that i feel is truly definite yet so i'm not even listening i understand what are your plans are you planning to go to dallas anytime soon to houston yeah yeah i'll go to houston when i when i think it's appropriate i'll go to houston uh to be with my sister-in-law and um if necessary i will be going to spokane washington her brother astronaut michael anderson grew up in the spokane area he flew to russia's mir space station in 1998 he was in charge of the columbia's science experiments well as we've noted there is an international dimension to today's tragedy elon ramon the first israeli astronaut to fly in

02:50:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=10201s)

the first israeli astronaut to fly in space was on board the shuttle columbia his presence was a source of enormous pride for israelis and now is the cause of tremendous grief cnn's kelly wallace joins us from jerusalem kelly judy the first israeli to travel in space gave this country something to cheer about and celebrate after months and months of violence but now israelis are engaged in what has become an all too familiar ritual here mourning this time the loss of a national hero colonel ramon had a distinguished military career he fought for israel in two wars he also took part in the successful bombing of a nuclear reactor being built in iraq in 1981 his extended family his father and his brother are now making their way to the united states to be reunited with colonel ramon's wife and his four children before leaving ramon's brother spoke out about the emails he had been receiving he said ramon looked at this shuttle mission as his proudest

accomplishment there was euphoria and great joy because it was the realization of elon's greatest dream [Music] he was overjoyed he corresponded from the shuttle he wrote that he felt he was above the clouds in every sense [Music] and condolences coming in from throughout the world including the palestinian community yasser arafat expressing his condolences to the american people and also to the israeli people for their loss tonight judy thanks kelly a tragedy that brings us all together well one of the columbia astronauts who died this morning was dr laurel blair sultan clark she was a mission specialist clark was a u.s navy commander and a medical doctor she considers racing wisconsin her hometown and our cece rogers is there cece

02:52:02 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=10322s)

and our cece rogers is there cece hi judy we're in front of laura clark's high school where people have been gathering all evening to pay respects to a fallen hero on the last day of shuttle columbia's two-week mission it was laurel clark who took houston's wake-up call good morning houston we're uh getting ready for a big day up here had a great time on orbit and really excited to come back home that the 41 year old wife and mother would not make it home is still sinking in in her hometown of racine wisconsin a makeshift memorial sits outside horlick high school where laurel sultan as she was known then is something of a hero but she did what she wanted to accomplish we all followed the flight and then what she was doing up there and to have something like that and this kind of a tragedy it's just almost beyond words to describe students heard the news at a wrestling match and paused for a moment of silence and to sing the national anthem she was a great role model to us because it's pretty cool how someone could from our school could go up in space it's just awesome in nearby milwaukee clark's brother said family members take comfort in the fact that she at least fulfilled a lifelong dream to travel in space she was a person who was very goal oriented and that's where she got where she was but she was so warm and friendly with with people she loved kids we all are very concerned about her son ian and how he'll pull through this family members also take comfort in her many accomplishments she had degrees in zoology and medicine from the university of wisconsin at madison and worked as a navy submarine doctor at one point stationed in scotland before going to the space program [Music] [Applause]

02:54:02 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=10442s)

[Applause] hearing that song reminds me of all the different places down on earth and all the friends and family that i have all over the world thanks and it's been great working with you and all the other folks her home in wisconsin was never far from laurel clark's thoughts she took a pennant from her high school up with her in the shuttle and she was planning to take pictures of a lighthouse not far from here on lake michigan that she was supposed to have been able to see from her bedroom at home judy cece rogers taking us to the hometown of one of the seven lost today miles it just breaks your heart it does indeed judy so once again the united states is in mourning this time for seven space explorers who died early today over texas cnn's bruce morton has more [Music] americans mourned in churches all this week our prayers will be for the families that survive those seven astronauts and the whole space program family at the kennedy space center at the white house flags at half staff at nasa headquarters hear a flag and a banner which now looks sad family members grieve of course that's what these dreamed of doing most of his life but that's what he said his goals to do the principal of astronaut david brown's old high school called us last year and asked if there was something that he could take from the high school up with him on this space mission we eventually did send him a banner of the school that he brought up strangers were shocked in a gym in chicago's planetarium i went to space camp and

02:56:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=10560s)

camp and um now it kind of scares me almost so i don't know how much i'm gonna have second thoughts but if i want to get into that i'm feeling pretty bad about this accident i mean like ever since challenger crashed i thought there was never going to be another space shuttle accident it's just pure shock disbelief this is unreal i mean you come out here expecting to see a shuttle land and it's just not there in fact it's just

17 years and three days since the shuttle challenger exploded on takeoff on the anniversary columbia commander rick husband remembered that crew and three others who died in the 1967 fire their dedication and devotion to the exploration of space was an inspiration to each of us and still motivates people around the world to achieve great things in service to others president bush led the morning for the seven who died aboard colombia the crew of the shuttle columbia did not return safely to earth yet we can pray that all are safely home and at the nasa briefings for reporters some voices broke my promise to the crew and the crew families is that the investigation that we have just launched will find the cause we'll fix it and then we'll move on they will move on humankind has crossed oceans explored continents walked on the moon some kid tonight will be looking at the stars and thinking why not the urge to know what's out there is part of who we are bruce morton cnn washington the exploration we hope will continue let's turn it to wolf blitzer in houston wolfe you know myles even as this investigation gets going and questions about the future of the space missions are asked all sorts of commissions of inquiry perhaps that we're not even envisaging people here in houston at the johnson space center they're coming to the gates of this center they're dropping off

[02:58:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=10680s)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=10680s)

of this center they're dropping off flowers they're remembering they're expressing their anguish their sadness if you take a look at the picture of these seven astronauts you look at them you see the five men the two women of those five men one african-american one israeli the indian american woman it's a beautiful mosaic cut short so sadly miles what wolf blitzer in houston on behalf of wolf in houston at the johnson space center and judy woodruff in washington as well as lou dobbs down at the kennedy space center thank you much for very much for being with us for this special report be sure to join me again for another special report an hour from now columbia shuttle tragedy that's 10 p.m eastern 7 pacific i'm miles o'brien larry king live is up next right here on cnn [Music] [Applause] all right wildcats listen up now well dave's dad here's the way we're going to be sure to third base coach do any of your dads have any experience yeah my dad owns nike [Music] couch there's my dad hey guys jellybean ownership it's for everybody an ameritrade everything you need to trade from real-time streaming quotes to 24 7 client services all for 10.99 every online equity trade no matter how many shares you buy wildcats join the thousands who switch to ameritrade every month ameritrade what's your share open an account today at ameritrade.com and get 25 commission free internet equity trades and you could be trading

[03:00:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=10800s)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=10800s)

equity trades and you could be trading the same day you apply the colombia is lost there are no survivors [Music] tonight seven astronauts die in the skies over texas only minutes from landing [Music] welcome to a very special edition of larry king weekend we'll be interviewing many people during the course of this hour we're also going to try to include your phone calls this is a very sad night around cnn and around the globe and certainly at nasa we start with two people particularly hit by this joining us on the phone are doug and petty haviland their niece navy commander laurel clark md died on space shuttle columbia today also on the phone with us is uh laurel's brother dan doug how did you hear about it well we uh checked in with cnn to we knew the landing was going to take place this morning and they weren't on yet but then we got a call from our son bruce said that there was trouble with the shuttle and then we checked in again with cnn and as they were beginning their coverage so we saw the footage of the break up and so forth betty what a horrible couple of years for you your son timothy was killed at the world trade center right that's right tim had been very excited about the prospect of laurel taking off in space and had planned to go down with his wife and two step children to see her take off but of course he was in the wrong place at the wrong time also on the phone with us is dan salton whose sister was laurel clark how did you learn dan well i was uh got up early this morning was watching it on the internet i actually had been watching it the coverage watching nasa tv live on the internet as much as

[03:02:02 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=10922s)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=10922s)

nasa tv live on the internet as much as i could for the last two weeks and uh i woke up early just to soak it all in and to experience it uh to hear her voice one last time which i was able to do and to be able to talk to her about it later i knew that she was going to be flying down up on the flight deck this time and uh i wanted to talk to her about it afterwards there is no way doug to describe feelings at this point is there no uh you're kind of in shock for a while and uh it was a little the feeling of here we go again we yeah and to see what was taking place doug we're going to cut away for a minute and we're going to go to a news conference being held by the relatives of the late william mccool the pilot commander let's watch so early are things still in shock and that's what's helping you get through now it's very important it was very important to willie he was very much into working with children helping them learn about science not only willie but all of the crew were very excited about this mission because it was a science research mission which they felt would have so many benefits for humanity you know as a whole so no i think it would be a travesty if they did not continue the space program and the and the research programs and the the knowledge that we can gain because it helps not just us but all of humanity with the things that can be done this is also a very stressful time but you're here speaking with us in las vegas when are you going to join your husband no we had we had not i had seen a landing before i went with my daughter once before at the actual landing site you do not see any of the crew anyway so we just thought it would be better to wait till he got home to houston and

03:04:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=11040s)

wait till he got home to houston and then we could go down and actually visit with him hear about his impressions on the flight and that type of thing your son will be so many people's vibes tonight across the country what is it that you want them to know well i think it's a hard question i think they should know he was very dedicated to what he was doing he was you know an excellent pilot on it i think he is very oriented toward humanity and he was actually a very deeply religious young man as well and just very interested in children and one of his goals you know after he uh finished his career with the military was to work with teaching and working with children particularly in the area of science and he's very interested in that so mr mccool it is the dream of so many children growing up to be an astronaut a dream that your son realized yet watching these events that happened today can be very scary for a child i know much of this mission was based around research projects schools all over the country were involved in some of those experiments what would your words be to those children who watched today's events unfold who at one time thought i want to be i want to be an astronaut and might be scared by what they saw today don't give up the dream on there because science is important to all of us and and nothing is is perfect and unfortunately his crew happened to be the one where it wasn't perfect that something happened but they should not give up the dream they should carry on and and try to realize their potential as best they can thank you very much mrs cool you've been listening to a live press conference from audrey mccool mother of shuttle pilot william i was the mother of the late william mccool the shuttle pilot we're talking on the phone we're going to hold them on the phone with dan salton and doug and betty havilland the the brother of and uh uncle and aunt respectively of the late laurel clark md uh navy commander also killed today joining us though now is miles o'brien

03:06:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=11160s)

joining us though now is miles o'brien who has done yeoman-like work all day today uh one of the best uh at covering space that i know of his his knowledge is where were you you were prepared to anchor the broadcast to the landing miles well larry i i actually have two jobs here at cnn i'm a weekend anchor and i was already up and running at seven this morning uh doing my anchor job it was just so happen my two jobs kind of uh intersected this morning and we were going to talk the shuttle down as we typically do and i spent a lot of time telling folks to take a look outside the window because we knew that the shuttle was going to streak across the continental united states offer up a great pre-dawn light show as a matter of fact i told her assignment editor here paul karen to call all the local affiliates in the path make sure they got a camera out there and uh captured this event what they captured uh was not what we expected of course in all your history of covering these things had you have shown particular concern over landings no the the truth the matter is uh the first eight and a half minutes of the flight larry is when we get most of the the concern and most of the attention uh that's when um you have the potential explosive power of a small nuclear bomb uh

but you want to make sure it's unleashed in the right direction and so we watch that eight and a half minutes of powered ascent as they call it from the launch pad all the way to space very closely and the sense you get is once it arrives in orbit uh the worst is over if you will well it's um second on the list of concerns would be that return to earth when the shuttle undergoes tremendous stress 3000 degree heat and quite frankly perhaps we weren't uh didn't have as much attention paid to it as it should was there any verbal warning of anything imminent no it came very quickly uh a very abrupt conversation and no indication from the crew that they had any indication of what was coming up we do know that there are a few sensor warnings which came just prior to the communication loss uh the the sensors went out there was a

03:08:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=11281s)

uh the the sensors went out there was a conversation a transmission from rick husband the shuttle commanders sort of half of a roger if you will that kind of thing and it was all over uh the things happened very quickly we'll take a break and come right back miles will remain with us we'll talk to some eyewitnesses and some more phone conversation with the relatives as well this is a special edition of larry king weekend we'll be right back we have booster ignition and liftoff of space shuttle columbia with a multitude of national and international space research experiments [Music] good morning houston had a great time on orbit and really excited to come back home the colombia is lost there are no survivors [Music] hey say i'm a company any size big small grande and you are ip telephony this is how some communications companies want me to get to you let's see how it works in the state of avaya here you migrate your way to ip telephony you can go lightning fast or you can go really slow you can start for about the price of a standard pbx upgrade say what reach avaya a higher plane of communication hot desktop deals now at gateway this awesome system has a super fast intel pentium 4 2.4 gig processor cd burner huge 17-inch color monitor and lots more starting at just 8.99 and if you call

03:10:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=11401s)

starting at just 8.99 and if you call now we'll double your memory for free get a free copy of turbotax deluxe 2002 with purchase of any gateway consumer pc i'll take it call 1-800 gateway today [Music] refinancing your mortgage is fast and easy with dytec.com at ditech we refinanced our home at a lower interest rate and we also took out an equity line of credit to have available for future use and we were very very happy if you're thinking about refinancing your mortgage call or log on to ditech.com for today's low fixed rate i would highly recommend dytec to others because the process was so quick and easy and the people were great ditech.com call 1-871 fixed good job [Applause] [Music] the less art kids get the more it shows are yours getting enough art ask for more americansforthearts.org at nine o'clock this morning mission control in houston lost contact with our space shuttle columbia a short time later debris was seen falling from the skies above texas

03:12:02 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=11522s)

falling from the skies above texas the columbia's lost there are no survivors on board was a crew of seven colonel rick husband lieutenant colonel michael anderson commander laurel clark captain david brown commander william mccool dr kultna shavla and ilan ramon a colonel in the israeli air force [Music] we'll talk to some eyewitnesses in just a moment but i want to a couple other quick things with dan salton and doug and betty havilland on the phone we'll get back to miles o'brien too dan i heard you talking during the break with your uh with the uncle and aunt there will be some kind of service in houston on monday is that right no i don't think it'll necessarily be on monday uh all i'm hearing right now from nasa is that uh we should come down uh we want to support the family we want to support uh john clark and ian uh as much as we can and uh we're gonna wait to go down until monday is what we're hearing and the soonest uh nasa does hope to do something for us for the families and uh the soonest that will happen is tuesday and that will be in houston not florida that's correct in houston and we would be glad to be there and assist in whatever way we can doug and betty you're going to go right if if it's possible yes have you spoken to your brother-in-law dan uh to my brother-in-law john no i have not talked and talked to him directly i have talked to people who are in

contact with him and uh tonight his brother dave clark from tennessee is heading down there and my brother john sultan from albuquerque's flying down there and uh they're going to be with them as of about nine o'clock tonight so and how old is your sister's man at this point how old is your sister's son uh ian is eight years old and uh he's going he's the one we are most concerned about he's the one that we're gonna um support

03:14:02 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=11642s)

he's the one that we're gonna um support uh he's the one who needs us the most thank you very much doug and betty havil and dan salton thanks so much for talking with us and please uh acknowledge our deep concern thank you thank you thank you and you're welcome joining us in dallas are gary uh hunziker and his wife lin's liz hunziker and they were eyewitnesses gary where were you and what did you see that's correct um about eight this morning we stepped out the uh back door to the patio to uh to witness the overflight of the shuttle i heard last night that it would be overflying about 803 and i was determined i wanted to see it um it was very easy to spot initially when we stepped out there was a very prominent contrail behind it and the the shuttle itself was very brightly lit by the morning sun to the naked eye at least everything looked normal i saw nothing that would make me the least suspicious that anything was wrong i did have a pair of binoculars with me and i was hoping to get a better view through those uh shuttle was moving very fast i'd never seen it before so i was uh i was kind of surprised how fast it moved had a devil of a time getting it in the binoculars when i finally did my my immediate reaction to liz was there are already some chase jets with it i saw two bright spots slightly behind on each side of the shuttle and i thought what i was seeing at that point were were some chase jets escorting the shuttle in about 15 minutes later i turned on the television i figured since uh since we saw the overflight i would like to see the landing and of course the first thing i heard when i turned the television on is that 8 am they had lost all visual and radar radar contact with the shuttle then they went on to to say that the shuttle was flying at 12 000 miles per hour and at 200 000 feet and instantly it struck me certainly what i saw couldn't have been chase jets what i saw mustang and debris and liz what was your reaction well my morning started off i was just

03:16:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=11760s)

my morning started off i was just thrilled that i could witness the shuttle flying over it was a beautiful day in dallas today absolutely blue skies very clear i was really taken by the amount of jet stream that was behind the shuttle and initially because i was just looking up at the sky i did not see what gary had witnessed and thought were the jets until i had backed up and kind of changed angles and then i was able to see these other what i thought were jet streams and obviously as we found out minutes later were not and so my excitement really turned to one of just disbelief it kind of reminded me of the day that we witnessed the challenger it's just very it was very difficult and our hearts go out to their families and just in retrospect in retrospect gary you saw nothing then break off you thought it was just two planes following them i i didn't i just i looked at it with the naked eye for only a few seconds and then was uh really working trying to get it in binoculars and when i got it in binoculars i had such a narrow field of vision that i really didn't didn't see much except the shuttle and just the debris very very near to it but it wasn't evident to me that it was breaking up no i had i had no no feeling that way at all not until i heard the news reports later than i realized what i'd actually seen thank you gary and liz thanks for talking with us back to miles o'brien in atlanta who is our weekend anchor and who is our cnn space correspondent they're not going to find every piece of debris are they miles i mean that's illogical i can't imagine they would uh larry you know there aren't many very big pieces the biggest pieces we've pieced we've seen is about four feet in length most of them are very small and we're talking about a debris field which could begin in arizona and end in louisiana quite literally certainly more of the debris is concentrated in that area of texas but

03:18:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=11880s)

concentrated in that area of texas but nevertheless there are so many little pieces over such a broad area quite frankly that that smoking gun piece may be elusive meaning we may never know well uh certainly finding a piece that gave you some clear-cut guidance that perhaps a tile fell off or a cluster of tiles fell off uh that kind of thing would offer conclusive proof but there are other ways of finding these things out as well i'm told tonight larry they're looking at the possibility that these flaps on the rear portion of the shuttle they're called elevons it controls the up down the pitch as they call it there was some unusual movement in those immediately prior to the disintegration what that means i don't know they can find a piece of the elevon for example that might offer them some clues i think it's really important to point out if people see these pieces to stay away from them because not only are they potentially toxic monomethyl hydrazine nasty stuff can give you cancer can burn you nitrogen to toxins same stuff terrible stuff but on top of that if you're interested in souvenirs it could be a souvenir which might be in fact proof of what happened to the space shuttle columbia wouldn't that be awful if that became some kind of strange souvenir and one other thing miles can we take solace in the fact that at that altitude and at that speed they were gone in a second i i you know i think that's probably safe to say larry i think things happen very very quickly up there miles yeoman like work thank you so much you're welcome miles o'brien cnn space correspondent weekend anchor when we come back we're going to talk to an extraordinary lady june scoby rogers she's the widow of francis dick scobee he was the commander of the challenger still to come on this edition of uh larry king weekend a special edition we'll talk with astronauts alan bean jerry leininger and scott carpenter we'll talk with walter cronkite and senator bill nelson who went up on a space flight

03:20:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=12000s)

space flight that's all ahead we'll be right back we're devastated because of the events that unfolded this morning [Music] there's a certain amount of shock in our system because we have suffered the loss of seven family members and we're learning to deal with that if you've been investing in money funds you've probably noticed your yields have slowed to a trickle strong ultra short-term income fund offers higher return potential and a 14-year history of proven performance for an alternative to today's low yields call 1-888-4 strong that's 1-8884 strong we'll help you build a strong portfolio i'm saving a hundred and sixty dollars a night at this four-star hotel a three-star for fifty nine dollars a night we're saving a hundred dollars a night in new york city but we even got the kids in their own room heist line now has the guaranteed best prices at top-of-the-line hotels save up to 40 off other leading online sites i paid 55 less than at hotels.com 60 bucks less than expedia i tell them the price the exact neighborhood and even how many stars and they found it now we'll stay at a hotel instead of top of the line guaranteed best price priceline hotel had it with itching flaking dandruff you need the neutrogena detail power of three unlike ordinary medicated shampoos tea gel works on all three major scalp conditions dermatologists recommended number one stop the itching and flaking switch the neutrogena t-jail it works hi can i get a snow cone an ice cream sandwich a garden hose a dog house and a ping

03:22:03 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=12123s)

a garden hose a dog house and a ping pong table what if you could get everything you need at one place at mission hospital we have one of the top trauma heart and maternity centers in california not to mention the experts of chocolate mission mission hospital everything for life this is the latest edition of the accord totally redesigned from the ground up offering a new level of refinement and style comfort power and safety attributes honda has always been known for but don't let your eyes deceive you after all affordability is also our heritage the all-new accord from honda [Music] we're a very rookie crew a very young crew we have uh four rookies first time flyers and three one time flyers so as you can see compared to the the average shuttle crew today we're very inexperienced crew so knowing that we've gone to great lengths to make sure that our inexperience isn't something that's going to happen us we've worked very closely worked hard together over the last two years to to make this mission a success it was astronaut michael anderson and uh before we talk with june scoby rogers whose husband piloted the challenger we're going to make contact with david neal in rusk texas who was also an eyewitness david what did you see good evening um i was outside at the palestine airport where we have our normal monthly fly-in and i happen to be looking upwards looking for any aircraft and i look up and i see a bright object my only guess is you know a

03:24:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=12240s)

a passenger jet with a large contrail but uh it immediately thereafter words started fanning out the little pieces very bright blue colors and so i immediately called the airport manager who then calls fort war center and supposedly were the first people to call on that at first you know that's all we thought it was a passenger jet and we were very afraid that we just witnessed maybe a terrorist attack of some sort and then going inside waiting to hear some news of it on the news we then learned it was the space shuttle did you david did you see anything that looked like a fire i did not see anything look like a fire i just saw uh what looked like the sun reflecting off a airplane and then it started to turn a blue color and a lot of little pieces coming off of it and fanning out in all different directions wasn't it going remarkably fast to you uh yes it was and uh being in the aviation business for as long as i was i didn't believe it could be at 200 000 feet like they have been reporting because there were contrails even on the little pieces that were coming off of it and it did seem to be very going very fast you think it was lower than 200 000 feet based on your experience with flight yes sir and a lot of the other pilots there at the airport believe the same thing [Applause] that's interesting we'll follow up on that you thought it was lower david thanks very much david neal an eyewitness on the scene in russ texas at the airport we'll be calling on you again joining us now from chattanooga tennessee is june scoby rogers the widow of francis dick scobee who was commander the challenger on january 28 1986 where were you this morning june i was at home i just turned on the television while i was emptying the dishwasher and when i heard lost communications i

03:26:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=12361s)

when i heard lost communications i dropped everything brought back some terrible memories from my family it's tragedy for the entire nation isn't it you're the founding chairman of the challenges center for space science education you've stayed deeply involved in this you've remarried right i have i have um i met don rogers a general in the army at arlington on easter and his wife had died and we became good friends and we've moved here to chattanooga and the challenger center is all the families came together to say you know the world knew how our loved ones died and we want the world to know how they lived and the families for the columbia crew must be devastated with the numbing shock that we know so well what would you say to them just to take each day one day at a time to feel the love of family and friends and to know that their loved ones have touched the face of god that they're in god's hands they were heroes they were heroes like our firemen and police and our military they were serving their country with a dream vision of what was needed for space exploration and they were wonderful examples to our nation and they knew the dangers didn't they they know when you're working in that field in space exploration they're pioneers for the country for our planet they take that risk knowingly and that makes them even

03:28:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=12480s)

makes them even that much greater a hero we're going to take a break and come back with june scoby rogers and talk more about living after such a tragedy she lived with it after challenger and today we have colombia and then we'll meet a major panel get together on this special edition of larry king weekend we'll have another one tomorrow night and joining us among the guests will be one of the veteran space correspondents eva hugh downes don't go away [Music] i don't own warehouses anymore i've got brown with brown managing my supply chain my goods get from the dock to my customers in no time brown helps me build a leaner faster supply chain machine then tosses me keys and says drive i like to drive inventory and transportation management one company ups what can brown do for [Music] you the saab 93 sport sedan just received a five star rating for collision safety performance from the european new car assessment program [Music] it started with a vision [Music] create a company that would dare to be

03:30:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=12601s)

create a company that would dare to be different [Music] a company built to serve the individual investor this vision created more than a company it launched a movement today more and more investors are discovering there's a better alternative to traditional brokerage firms they're moving to charles schwab join the movement

monday on cnn primetime it ain't go beyond the headlines on connie chung tonight then lana king live brings you top newsmakers and at 10 a unique look at the day's events on news night with aaron brown it's all part of cnn primetime monday britain's prime minister tony blair arrives in the us and cnn's christian amanpour is there a certain distinction between evidence on weapons of mass destruction a u.s exclusive interview this is real reporting this is cnn [Music] and when you look out the window you're not looking at the stars of the moon you're looking at the earth and when you look at the earth invariably people say that they think about people and they invariably say they think about the people that they kind of know and care about that was the late captain david brown june scoby rogers widow of uh francis dick scobee commander of the challenger do you think that as a society we're kind of sanguine now about space travel that unless something like this happens we treat it as a just another day of flight i was so happy for nasa that safety was the first issue that they were concerned about every day that's their focus but the public do you think the public gave much thought to it i think that they looked at it more than

03:32:02 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=12722s)

i think that they looked at it more than likely like any any flight any airplane flight it's another mission but i know i know the astronauts and their families didn't look at it that way it's um it's truly a tragedy for that loss you uh lost your husband now your son is that true he flies f-16s in the reserves my son is an f-16 pilot rich scobee i've talked to him the first thing this morning and several times today and i've talked to my daughter kathy they're wonderful wonderful children and it's very difficult for dixie kobe's parents the commander husband had just sent a message on the 28th of january um to say it was the anniversary for the loss of challenger and he wished well the families and the challenger crew is so unfortunate that the families of colombia didn't get to greet them and congratulate them on a successful mission on the third floor is there a chance is there a chance your son might go to the gulf um my son might be called to duty as will many sons um that's a difficult time in our nation it's a traumatic time i'm sure for our president he gave a wonderful message to the columbia crew today my heart is to him as well as he is so concerned with our nation at a time when we may be close to war and loss of a space shuttle crew and nation indeed the world is in disaster today thank you june good seeing you good seeing you looking so well too

03:34:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=12840s)

so well too june scoby rogers the widow of france's dick scoby commander of the challenger now when we come back on the phone with walnut cronkite and we'll visit with scott carpenter and original mercury 7 astronaut jerry leininger the former nasa astronaut and retired u.s navy medical corps captain alan bean former astronaut was a luna module pilot for apollo 12 that was the second lunar landing and senator bill nelson democrat of florida one of the leading congressional experts on nasa who made a space flight himself they're all next right after this this is indeed a tragic day for the nasa family for the families of the astronauts who flew on sts-107 and likewise tragic for the nation we trust the prayers of the nation will be with them and with their families and again a more courageous group of people you could not have hoped to know [Music] winds are kicking up and the temperatures dropping folks it's nasty out there if you don't have to be out on the road don't the 2003 jaguar x-type the only carnots class with permanent all-wheel drive standard the road is at your mercy while other mortgage companies are still filling out the paperwork buytech.com is busy processing your loan apply now for a low fixed rate mortgage or cash out some of your equity it's a whole new way to get a mortgage just log on or call 1-871 fixed dytec.com your mortgage solution delivered

03:36:03 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=12963s)

what are these magic business binoculars how do they work you look through them you see the future of business wow the future sure looks different what do you see it's a 3d holographic projection of the world to come things move fast everything's integrated everything works in real time how do we get everything to work i don't know it says i need another [Music] quarter she's the first one in the family to go to college full scholarship four years thing is it's 25 miles away we're household and we've helped over 700 000 people who need cars get cars because for nearly 125 years we've understood the hopes and financial needs of

everyday people household helping everyday people every day save one person save the world you can be an angel you can make the difference click on www.saveoneperson.org and be an angel to someone who needs your help you can honor the lives lost on 9 11 by helping or saving a life you have the power to be an angel why don't you be an angel too the next move is on you save one person save the world for me it doesn't really affect me i'm just so focused on on the mission and the training and uh gosh i've got a navy background i've been flying off carries and doing light landings and dealt with pitching decks and bad weather so you just kind of get immune in the sense to the environment around you and you deal with it and i it's pretty much my attitude with regard to the 911 events and i guess i have more concern maybe

03:38:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=13081s)

and i guess i have more concern maybe for my family i just want to do everything i can to put them at ease and i know that nasa has done a wonderful job in coping with the necessity for for new security measures and i think they've done a good job in doing that and have given comfort to me and my crewmates and in particular our families along those lines how is the late commander william mccool joining us now on the phone is walter cronkite former anchor and managing editor of the cbs evening news he's anchored cbs's coverage of multiple space shots and the apollo moon program of course scott carpenter is in phoenix arizona it's good to see him again one of the original mercury seven astronauts he flew america's second man orbital flight on may 24th of 1962. in traverse city michigan is jerry linninger former nasa astronaut and retired u.s navy medical corps captain he flew on the sts-64 aboard the shuttle discovery in houston is alan bean former nasa astronaut retired u.s navy captain was lunar module pilot for apollo 12 the second lunar landing and was the fourth man to step on the moon and in washington is senator bill nelson democrat of florida one of the leading congressional experts on nasa and while a member of the house he served as chairman of the subcommittee on science space and technology trained and flew as a crew member of sts-61c a six-day mission of the columbia in january of 86. scott what's your reaction to the occurrence this morning scott carpenter first okay larry i think it is important now to for us to do two things first to express our condolences to the bereaved families and the second maybe even more important is to realize that space exploration has become and will continue to be a vital part of our national character we lost some wonderful young men and women today

03:40:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=13201s)

some wonderful young men and women today but there are many more coming along who will gladly take their place we will find the problem we will select the way to to cure it we will be in flight again soon because it is part of the national character all you have to do is admit that the benefits justify taking the risks many are willing to do that we will persevere and we will prevail and we will get back soon on the road to mars walter cronkite do you think that the public at large was taking it as just another day and had lost interest generally in the daily coverage of space no i don't believe anybody larry can think of this as just another day it's really uh it's it's it seems that we're destined to be reminded from time to time of the dangers that we face in the exploration of space we've become pretty uh blase about the success of our shuttle flights and begin to pay a little attention to them until their attention is called by a tragedy like this one today and and i was thinking so much of scott carpenter today and it's a delight to be with you scott uh on this particular occasion uh i'm sorry that we've got this occasion to do it dawn but i remember scott carpenter's re-entry into the atmosphere after the second mercury flight and uh the communications went out and while while the space control was getting uh information telemetry that indicated that he was all right and

03:42:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=13320s)

that indicated that he was all right and gotten through this black period coming into the extreme pressure of the atmosphere from outer space we did not know that he was all right for almost 45 minutes and we understood how dangerous it was getting back into the atmosphere with the with that extreme extreme heat on that speeding vehicle and most of us thought that we lost scott i don't remember that well let me ask jerry lyndon sure what is it like in re-entry re-entry is very dynamic you're inside a fireball everything's moving

around you a lot of vibration violent uh you know you know that you are on the edge any any astronaut that's flown in space during re-entry i think realize it is a critical phase of flight and if something goes a little bit wrong uh you're out of control and what do you mean by a little bit a little bit wrong give me an example it doesn't take much well if you're for example your guidance uh or your control if you tip the wing a little further then it should be tipped if a tile comes undone in a critical spot you've got fire all around you've got tremendous heat especially a mach 18 you've got about 3000 degrees on the underbelly of the shuttle and if you've got a weak link in there if you've got a missing tile it melts through the aluminum hits a critical component and once that chain reaction of bad thing starts happening it's a runway train and and that's what we got into today alan bean was re-entry of concern for you i'd say so of course launch is the most critical time because that's the time when most things have to work right entry is the second most critical and these two things stand out among all of them because they're about the only two times in space flight where you get doing something and if something starts to go wrong a little bit you can't stop and fix it you in launch you're just going to keep launching and you may discover you've

03:44:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=13441s)

launching and you may discover you've got a problem and if you if it can't solve itself almost you're sunk in the same way with entry you started you start entering and gravity and speed uh you're going to keep entering until you slow down greatly and if something starts to go wrong and as jerry says it doesn't take much we forget sometimes how difficult it is to fly a spaceship in from mach 20 all the way down to landing speed at about mach 0.3 and have it work right it just seems like it's easy but it's not it takes our best engineering and skill senator nelson before we take a break were you concerned about landing when you went up uh larry uh you stuff any kind of fear you're so focused on what you're doing uh but you realize the risk and it's a part that the crew understands uh but the american people think that it's as routine as getting in a car and taking a sunday afternoon drive it isn't we'll take a break and come right back with our outstanding panel don't go away it's a truly difficult day for all of us many of us were standing alongside the runway waiting to celebrate their triumphant return after a 16-day science mission sadly i think from the video that's available does not appear that there were any survivors [Music] how do you invest to help secure your future you start with your dreams and edward jones edward jones my brother danny and me for as long as i

03:46:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=13560s)

my brother danny and me for as long as i can remember we've been competitive about everything he got a new truck i got a bigger one i've got a family he's got a bigger one that's the way it's always been and my doctor tells me to start taking an aspirin every day for my heart just one saint joseph asperger it's smaller than a regular aspirin but he says that's all i need so maybe bigger isn't always better try telling him that saint joseph asprin trusted with all your heart [Music] visit weston.com member starwood preferred guest there's a place that i travel when i water roam and nobody knows it but me the roads don't go there and the signs stay home and nobody knows it but me it's far far away and way way afar it's over the moon and the sea and wherever you're going that's wherever you are and nobody knows it but me the powerful chevy tahoe like a rock if you've had a heart attack or a stroke the last thing you need is another one sneaking up on you after all you've got better things to do i know my case i had a heart attack then i heard about plavix so i asked my doctor he told me plavix is a prescription pill that can help protect you from a heart attack or a stroke if you've recently had one or if you have poor circulation in the legs causing pain flavix is proven to help keep blood platelets from sticking together and forming clots which helps keep your blood flowing this can help protect you from another heart attack or stroke if you have a medical condition that is causing bleeding such as a stomach ulcer you should not use plavix side effects include itching rash diarrhea and bruising additional rare but serious side effects

03:48:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=13681s)

additional rare but serious side effects could occur ask your doctor taking plastics once a day helps protect me find out if plavix can help protect you from another heart attack or stroke well good morning houston we're uh getting ready for a big day up here had a great time on orbit and really excited to come back home hearing that song reminds me of all the different places down on earth and all the friends and family that i have all over the world thanks and it's been great working with you and all the other folks scott carpenter is there uh some sort of cockpit recording device like they have on jetliners in shuttles no larry don't have that what was it like when you were re-entering and had that problem it uh is exciting it goes the good word the entry is part of a flight regime where the status of the flight is rapidly changing and you have to be very careful that and assure that everything goes right it's quite a fireworks display you've got a lot of important things to watch happen but it's something that training prepares you for and if everything goes right you come back safely unfortunately today that did not happen jerry linninger do you think they had a warning i know they had a little warning about tire pressure from what i've heard um you know all the little indicators i think the people on earth started seeing a few sensors go out and i think they were starting to get worried but i think the people on board i think it hit them very rapidly with

03:50:02 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=13802s)

i think it hit them very rapidly with very little to react to and even if it had been a warning that something bad was happening not a lot they can do when you're going 12 000 miles an hour at that critical part of flight alan bean one of our people before who was viewing it from the ground and who works at an airport as a veteran of these things swore that that was lower than 200 000 feet he thought it was a jet liner well first of all he thinks that's a contrail which means condensation trail which means the fuel from your jet engine free you know that let unburned fuel freezes and that makes the white trails behind airplanes well that isn't what was going on with the shuttle at 200 000 feet there's no water behind it what you're fee seeing is heat from the heat shield and it's making sort of a smoke uh uh smoky residue so it's a completely different thing and if you think it's contrails they only work up to about forty five thousand fifty thousand feet so you know that's what confused him senator nelson and you and walter cronkite two uh civilians in a sense who went up would you go again i would larry uh and i said that uh 17 years ago almost at this exact time having our crew just returned to earth 10 days later challenger launched and blew up i was asked that question then and i think most anyone on a crew would go again i'm sorry it's important uh larry it's important in the future of this country uh we are as a character of american people by nature explorers and adventurers and we never want to give that up if we do we're a second-rate nation and that's why we have to overcome this problem and get back into the flight what do you regret that you never went oh very much so very very much so i

03:52:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=13920s)

oh very much so very very much so i think it's one of the great disappointments my life that i uh never got up there i followed the space program from the very beginning and and wanted to get a board i thought i was on the short list to make the trip that eventually went to a school teacher and we lost mcauliffe of course on that challenger trip but uh the the adventure of it the experience would be inevitable at least great do you know the i i was impressed today i wonder if others were with the fact that we had that in those incredible amateur pictures of the approach of the uh of the columbia uh and whether it was [Music] whatever whether it was smoke or contrail whatever it seems to me that nasa's got some incredible pictures of the columbia really almost peeling apart you could see the parts coming off of it and i would think that was they carefully examine those pictures they're going to be able to determine what parts those were even and it might might simplify the search for what happened and why isn't that a good point alan bean i think it is a really good point uh they're going to study those and they have other cameras that no one has probably taken a look at yet the film because they don't want to take a chance of losing it and they're going to spend a lot of time studying this and i think they're going to be able to you know pinpoint exactly when something gave way and sort of what maybe it was and put that together with the telemetry and and they'll have a step by step or in 10th of a second by 10th of a second uh timeline before too long talking about what happened where and

then they'll back up with that and say what could have caused this and and then they'll probably go from there so they're i'm sure they're working on that now collecting this other film senator nelson uh scott carpenter was very confident they will find the answer to what went wrong are you uh i am larry uh

03:54:02 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=14042s)

are you uh i am larry uh when you add everything that everyone has said with the fact that there are pieces of the wreckage on the ground in a pattern that went uh in a southeasterly direction across texas and if the public is responding as uh responsibly as it apparently is leaving those pieces of wreckage alone and notifying the authorities they're going to get a lot of evidence from that scott everybody is gathering in use in the families and the like uh do former astronauts go to those things are you gonna go uh time will tell i'm not sure yet larry do you keep involved in the space program scott of course we go i'll go back to houston for our annual physicals with the newly installed medical corps which includes geriatric surgeons [Laughter] [Music] jerry do you think this will diminish the program at all that people are going to sour on it i don't think so you know those astronauts are brave souls and uh i think we need to carry on i have to say something larry to walter cronkite uh he lived vicariously through me because when i was 14 years old and the people i'm on the show with were up there on the moon uh he once was doing a broadcast and got a tear in his eye and he was so choked up he couldn't talk we were on the moon and i said i want to do that someday and so walter cronkite helped inspire me to become an astronaut so he lived through us and i think all of us astronauts lived through each other and that was one fine crew up there today in the future astronauts will be on their shoulders walter how does that make you feel well that makes me pretty proud to know that i contributed that great man to the space program and i i appreciate the kind words

03:56:02 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=14162s)

and i i appreciate the kind words alan bean do you miss it i miss a lot i left there some 22 years ago and i think about particularly when they're doing something exciting like eva or repairing the hubble's pace telescope or assembling the space station uh i'll tell you today i one of the things that's happened in the space program is the the person that the astronaut whether it's male or female they get the excitement and honors and everything else of going into space but their mates that are home male or female depending uh they they just get a lot of the worry and uh when i uh we're we're out of time allen but i'll tell you what we're going to have you back okay sure fine we're going to have you all back alan uh what do we think of the uh we're out of time also we're out of time but you can talk to him off the wall of cronkite scott carpenter jerry linninger alan bean and senator bill nelson we're going to have them all back there'll be another special edition of larry king weekend tomorrow night at our regular time anderson cooper will follow us with more live coverage throughout the night thanks for joining us and sad good night [Music] so [Music] how do you invest to help secure your future you start with your dreams and edward jones my life edward jones

03:58:04 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=14284s)

for messy jobs i wouldn't be caught without a shark handbag and now the improved 700 watt shark back has many features of a full-sized top-of-the-line vacuum it's bagless has the same heavy-duty suction power of a full-size vacuum and even has a true hepa filter a feature found only on top of the line vacuums until now i couldn't believe how well the shark back got the dog hair off my couch and it didn't blow the dander back in the air the hepa filter really helped me with my allergies i was amazed that a handheld vacuum could have so much power what makes a shark back so different its exclusive true hepa dust cup filter with tap clean technology other brands with standard filters often blow dust and dirt particles right through the filter and back into the air the shark's hepa dust cup filter won't allow that it traps 99 percent of air impurities even tiny microscopic impurities won't pass through the shark max filter cleaning the filter is a snap with its exclusive tap clean technology just remove the screen and tap the filter it practically cleans itself after rinsing up to 90 percent of its original suction power can be retained it's almost like getting a brand new filter every time you rez regular filters just can't do that my daughter's pediatrician recommended hepa filters on all our vacuums the new hepa filter on the shark really helps out my daughter's asthma the shark pack is perfect for tight

spaces and it weighs less than 2.2 pounds so you can take it anywhere and still have the suction power of a full-size vacuum i use the shark back under the baby's high chair i think the best part of the shark is cleaning the car call now to get the new shark back with its exclusive tap clean hepa filter a two foot flexible extension hose and two accessory brush attachments if you're one of the first 500 people to call we'll send you an additional tap clean filter for free to order the shark vac for two easy payments of 19.99 call 1-800-617-30 that's 1-800-617-3399 sharkback is also available at these fine stores

04:00:08 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=14408s)

fine stores [Music] 39 miles up at more than 12 000 miles per hour a routine re-entry becomes a national tragedy this day has brought terrible news the wall started shaking a thunderous noise booming which seemed to be right in our backyard we lost the data and that's when we clearly begin to know that we had a bad day the columbia is lost there are no survivors so sad and sorry for the families of people that have been lost tonight from launch to the last minutes of colombia's ill-fated return trip what nasa and the astronauts knew that impact was on the left wing we can't discount discount that there might be a connection research mission finally underway this is a cnn special report columbia a shuttle tragedy we are now rolling on to the proper azimuth for a 39 degree inclination you are looking at a live picture nega doches texas where debris from the space shuttle columbia waits to be collected and analyzed good evening from cnn world headquarters in atlanta i'm miles o'brien for americans who live through challenger or the apollo fire the feelings are all too familiar disbelief shock and grief once again we are reduced to looking at pictures over and over and asking ourselves how could this have happened and once again we are learning the names of extraordinary people seven of them whose lives were filled with knowledge accomplishments and daring we're learning about them but now

04:02:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=14520s)

learning about them but now we will never get to know them for the second time in nasa's history a space shuttle has been lost along with its entire crew the shuttle columbia streaking home after a 16-day mission suddenly crumbled broke apart and burned up just minutes before its scheduled touchdown it was a scene that horrified the nation much of the world during the next hour we're going to tell you as much as we can about what happened early this morning in the bright blue big sky over the state of texas to report in this tragedy in the investigation we will be joined by cnn's wolf blitzer the johnson space center near houston texas lou dobbs at the kennedy space center in florida and if you're just joining us or have been away from our coverage for a time we begin with my colleague anderson cooper who will summarize the latest developments anderson thanks very much miles new information continues to come into cnn regarding today's shuttle disaster human remains have been recovered in hemp hill texas authorities presume it is one of the astronauts pending positive id there are no reports anyone on the ground was injured by falling debris the remaining shuttles atlantis discovery and endeavor have been grounded for their foreseeable future the next shuttle flight had been set for march first no longer one problem nasa will have to address in the meantime is how to resupply the crew aboard the international space station no immediate danger they have enough food and supplies to last them through the end of may and president bush returned to the white house from camp david soon after learning this morning's tragic news a short time later he made a televised address the nation and ordered flags of government sites lowered to half staff that will last through wednesday the president said despite the painful loss the u.s space program would continue those the latest developments at this hour now our special coverage continues with miles o'brien thank you anderson columbia's mission came to an abrupt and catastrophic end uh literally over the heads of nasa controllers in houston texas and that's where we find cnn's wolf

04:04:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=14641s)

and that's where we find cnn's wolf blitzer this evening wolf miles the words were very chilling the words the last communication that we heard mission control here at the johnson space center in communication with the space shuttle columbia the seven members of the crew let's listen to the final exchange between the

crew and mission control and columbia houston we see your tire pressure messages and we did not copy your last roger that was it that was the last exchange between mission control at the johnson space center where i am right now and the members of the crew of the space shuttle columbia the next thing uh within a few minutes white streaks were seen flashing across the skies over texas streaks containing debris scaring a lot of people of course they heard a tumultuous explosion a loud boom and then the next thing they know debris raining on parts of texas raining all across texas indeed all the way over to louisiana and perhaps as far as way away as other states as well cnn's joining us now from nacogdoches texas where there's been some extensive debris already spotted dad well wolf if you can imagine this morning as many north texas and east texas residents were waking up this morning they had heard word that they would be able to get a chance to see the space shuttle streaking it's plume streaking across the texas sky which is a bright blue color this morning as it was headed toward florida many people watching it on live television here today this morning getting that rare chance to see the space shuttle streak toward florida and many people got to see live uh what had happened the catastrophic ending to the space shuttle columbia's mission and if you can imagine just from the southeast point of dallas out imagine a cone shape spreading out from across east texas and into parts of louisiana

04:06:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=14761s)

east texas and into parts of louisiana we now understand a debris field that is massive for investigators to have to comb through and search through they have warned people here to stay away from the debris we're here at a parking lot in downtown nacogdoches texas where there's a about a three foot piece of debris which has been kind of a gathering point for many people here to come by and reflect as to what has happened here today but this scene is played out all over east texas as many people have experienced debris falling near their homes and that sort of thing we understand that there has been a huge effort to collect all of this or at least to begin the process of uh containing those that wreckage so that nobody touches it and for the most part we understand that most people have been paying attention we did get a chance to speak with many people today who describe it as two minutes of a thunderous noise that they heard streaking across the sky and many people sharing with us today uh what they experienced this morning that's a little more real in it to actually see pieces of it especially here in east texas you know we're not not close to a space center or anything you feel a little closer now yes i do i believe we all will for a while i've seen the tracks uh after i came i rushed out of the cafe and and uh seen the streak in the sky that were aircraft that came over and then we heard the long continuous noise which didn't sound normal uh it sounded like an explosion and the noise like thunder kept kept in the atmosphere and ended up we knew something possibly happened well to give you an idea of just how difficult this collection process will be i've spoken already with several residents who said several hours hours ago they phoned in reports of small pieces of debris into the authorities here people would come by and check it out real quick but that still hasn't been picked up i imagine that's a case the case throughout much of east texas some areas are just very remote in very rural areas in some parts so it might take some time just to be

04:08:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=14880s)

so it might take some time just to be able to find all of the debris that's scattered over a massive area wolf have you seen any of the authorities actually collect the debris and if if you have how do they do it do they have special equipment we have seen in a couple of places and uh and also spoken with a resident who saw them uh pick up the debris as well they do take you know good care in terms of figuring out what exactly the situation is i think it depends on each individual situation where the debris is found as to exactly how they handle it but of course they want to be able to preserve everything that's on there because as you know wolf investigators are going to count on a lot of this wreckage to perhaps piece this together and even one tiny piece of debris could hold the clue to the cause of this explosion uh ed levandera thanks very much for joining us from nacogdoches here in texas cnn chicago bureau chief jeff locks here with me at the johnson space center jeff luck you've been talking to people here as they gather these makeshift memorials that are going on a lot of sad folks i don't doubt we're going to see it all over the country tomorrow wolf but tonight this is ground zero this is where it's happening this is of course where the astronauts lived and where they

worked i want to show us some pictures out at the front gate it's an incredible scene out there and i've been to a lot of i don't know school shootings plane wrecks i've never seen a memorial grow up so rapidly and so large out at the out at the johnson space center main gate there are flowers out there there are balloons there's an israeli flag draped out there all sorts of makeshift memorials uh poems that have been already written by folks you can tell that have just been crafted uh it's an incredible scene out there as we said this is a it's a company town yes it's an oil town houston yes it's a cow town but it's a space town this is a place where uh where these folks have lived and worked and trained all right we're going to be continuing to talk about what's going on uh jeff luck thanks very much i know you were here unfortunately in 1986 when the challenger exploded as well we'll make some comparisons as we go along uh a lot of

04:10:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=15001s)

comparisons as we go along uh a lot of sad people here at the johnson space center this investigation obviously only just beginning it'll last for months if not years back to you miles all right wolf thank you very much uh let's uh try to put together what we know uh and give you a sense of where this investigation might be headed and also give you a sense of some places where which might ultimately turn out to be dead ends but we'll tell you what we do know is this on the launch of the space shuttle columbia something happened which caught all of our attention who watch uh space shuttle launches if you look at this very closely what you will see here is a piece of the foam the orange foam on that external tank fell off at high velocity into the leading edge of the left wing nasa saw this engineers were looking at this throughout the entirety of the six day mission determined after some very careful analysis that number one they didn't think it caused any truly significant damage and number two even if it did they had zero options to deal with it and so the decision was made to let it be that was the left wing the left wing is significant in this because we do know that the failure appeared to begin on the left wing based on the telemetry we've heard from uh houston and from nasa now the tiles are a key thing here there are some 20 000 of these tiles which coat a space shuttle and you can see the little bricks here each of them is absolutely individual like a little snowflake if you will numbered and watched over carefully we witnessed the landing of discovery a couple years ago and i don't know if you can see up here there was a missing tile on the trailing edge of the flap called the elevon that got a lot of people's attention one tile missing in a place that was not deemed critical but it turned out to be a big fairly serious investigation there you see that missing tile there why are the tiles important well here's what happens uh when a shuttle comes back from uh orbit it circles the globe at 17 500

04:12:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=15120s)

orbit it circles the globe at 17 500 miles an hour it's the perfect equation between speed and a free fall and causes it just to free fall around the earth it slows down just enough to begin its fall to earth and as it comes into the atmosphere it gets into thicker and thicker air it heats up very quickly the shuttle's frame is made of aluminum aluminum would melt uh well below the 3000 degrees which space shuttle encounters on that re-entry and so the space shuttle orbiters are covered with three levels of thermal protection blankets and tiles primarily the black tiles being the ones which are in the position to receive the most heat as it comes in the nose goes high and it begins these steep banking maneuvers called role reversals all this is about trading speed for heat slowing it down and getting it just hot enough to withstand uh and at the levels that it can withstand the failure that we witnessed was just as the space shuttle was at its red hottest 3 000 degrees fahrenheit those tiles are designed to handle that but if some of those tiles a cluster of those tiles were to fall off uh it would uh the shuttle would be unprotected from that tremendous heat now take a look at this picture and you'll see exactly what was captured as the shuttle columbia streaked across the skies of texas 100 miles south of dallas this morning what started off as a single meteor like streak which is perfectly normal quickly turned into something much more ominous as multiple streaks uh happened as it broke up in mid-flight 200 000 feet in altitude mach 18 much faster than a rifle bullet we're talking about tremendous velocity this is the utter apex of the heat and stresses during this re-entry so if there had been any sort of weakness

04:14:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=15240s)

of weakness that occurred in that tile system whether it happened on launch or happen for some other reason this is when it would become exposed and obvious and this is exactly what we're seeing here now there is some um concern tonight that the engineers who are pouring over this data are looking at some unusual movements of those body flaps i was telling you about those elevons what that has to do with this very early at this juncture to draw any sort of conclusions now the debris field is literally a multi-state debris field there's never been a breakup like this in the history of aviation something at this altitude traveling this fast breaking up into pieces and if you look on the left hand side you're looking at debris which was recovered from challenger 17 years ago the anniversary occurring just this past week to the right you see some of the small pieces which have been strewn across arizona new mexico texas and parts of louisiana uh the question uh that i have been posing to engineers is is the pieces are so small it's spread over such a large area could there be a smoking gun which will go unnoticed which is the harder uh debris field to handle hundred feet below the surface of the ocean or a hundred miles across the state of texas hard to say but the fact of the matter is we want to tell you that if you see a piece of the space shuttle number one don't touch it for the benefit of your own health there's a toxic brew on board those space shuttles monomethyl hydrazine nitrogen tetroxide nasty stuff can cause you all kinds of harm and certainly you would not want to grab a souvenir that might be the solution to this terrible and tragic riddle earlier wolf blitzer reported from the johnson space center in houston that's home of mission control and the pre-flight preparation let me tell you just a little bit about the johnson space center the sort of the heart and soul the manned space program this is where the astronauts live and train and uh this is where the simulators are for the space shuttle the testing that's done at

04:16:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=15361s)

space shuttle the testing that's done at johnson space center often sets the standard for future space travels and is the place where astronauts live and work now working in conjunction with houston is the kennedy space center in florida it is responsible for the checkout the launch and landing of course of space shuttles and their payloads it's also where equipment designed for the international space station gets its final checkout and its preparations before it is loaded on board the shuttle today it is where the families of the astronauts had gathered at that shuttle landing facility that 15 000 foot runway at the kennedy space center where the shuttle returns the alternate landing site as you might well recall is edwards air force base in california and let's move on 30 seconds into the flashlight let's move uh let's send our attention now to the kennedy space center where we find cnn's blue dobbs lou miles thank you as you point out uh st 107 began its journey 16 days ago launching from pad a here at the kennedy space center the the men and women of nasa here today first shock and brief trying to come to terms with this tragedy trying to begin the process here as in every nasa center across the country of trying to understand what had caused the loss of life the loss of the colombia but the first thing that the men and women of nasa today wanted to do was to remember to honor and to pay tribute to the seven crew members lost this morning on the columbia and nasa observed a minute of silence i'm feeling pretty bad about this accident

04:18:03 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=15483s)

ever since challenger crashed i thought there was never going to be another space shuttle accident now i'm here today at the memorial i'm ashamed of the seven astronauts that were killed at this time today pretty good that's all i have to say it's just pure shock disbelief this is unreal i mean you come out here expecting to see a shuttle land and it's just not there it's just not there it's just completely flourishing it's sort of heart rendering because of the loss of these people and it's hard to even conceive you know that we've lost additional people john zarrella has been here with me throughout much of this tragic day and john these fallen astronauts who we honor and remember tonight uh not alone as as tragic victims of the of the failures amidst all of the glorious successes of the us space program right that's right uh lou and in fact as you're well aware not too far from here at the visitors center there is a memorial to the astronauts a granite slab over there there are lots of people here today because they expected to see a landing always busy on weekends more so today they did not see that landing and when word filtered down and finally came out that in fact there had been a terrible tragedy uh over texas many people began to go to that granite memorial it is a wall

and inscribed on that wall the names of 17 astronauts who have perished the of course the challenger seven the apollo one fire victims the three astronauts there and then another seven astronauts who perished in other other means who had not made it to flight so 17 astronauts in all people went to pay their tributes there

04:20:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=15600s)

pay their tributes there what they did there was to lay flowers some of them prayed some of them just observed a moment of silence as the nasa workers themselves did as well and we can certainly expect that as we saw out at the johnson space center that the memorials the ad-lib memorials that people are bringing will probably grow and grow as the days go by here at the the kennedy space center as people come to pay tribute tragically once again to seven more fallen heroes to pay tribute and to uh to come to terms with brief john thank you very much john zarrella now back to you miles o'brien thank you very much lou one of the astronauts who's flown on columbia as a matter of fact one of the most seasoned astronauts ever nasa's story musgrave will be with us shortly i'll talk about columbia with him and the risks and rewards of space flight after we take a brief break stay with us [Music] yes i'd like two cheeseburgers an iced tea uh a beach cruiser four tickets to the symphony and a grandfather clock [Applause] what if you could get everything you

04:22:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=15720s)

what if you could get everything you need at one at place hospital we have one of the top trauma heart and maternity centers in california not to mention the experts of chocolate mission mission hospital everything for life [Music] losing your sight is a terrible thing thankfully heritage for the blind is there to help heritage provides large print and braille material for the visually impaired free of charge you can help by donating your old car truck or van running or not to heritage for the blind just call 1-800 to donate to schedule a pick-up time heritage for the blind takes care of the paperwork you get the joy of brightening the day of a visually impaired person [Music] spend less time getting there and more time being there the islands of the bahamas save up to 150 on your bahamas getaway and ask about our small treasures properties call destination bahamas at 800 bahamas britain's prime minister tony blair arrives in the us and cnn's christian amanpour is there a certain distinction between evidence on weapons of mass destruction a u.s exclusive interview this is real reporting this is cnn [Music] we'll have more on this in just a moment and we're going to be hearing from story musgrave six-time shuttle flyer retired in 1996 from nasa his insights will undoubtedly uh be helpful to us all on this tragic day uh but before we do that let's go back

04:24:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=15841s)

uh but before we do that let's go back to uh houston and wolf blitzer wolfe thank you very much miles a lot of people are focusing their attention right now on these seven astronauts who exactly were they we know that over the past several years they've been training very intensely here in houston at the johnson space center but all of these seven individuals were remarkable you're seen as frederico whitfield with a look at the seven shuttle commander rick husband never had any question about his chosen profession he knew since childhood he wanted to be an astronaut well from the time i was about four years old i wanted to be an astronaut and it was about that time when the mercury program started up and so i saw those things on the tv and it just really excited me he joined the air force became a test pilot rose to colonel and in 1994 joined nasa and achieved his goal five years later husband piloted shuttle discovery on the first docking with the international space station rick husband was married with two children payload specialist ilan raymond the first israeli in space leaves behind a wife and four children raymond served as a fighter pilot before being chosen as his nation's first astronaut in 1997. indian-born mission specialist kalpana chawla earned a degree in aeronautical engineering in her home country before moving to the united states where she became a citizen and joined nasa challa made her inaugural space flight in 1997. for pilot william mccool the columbia mission was his first flight into space a former test pilot he was responsible for maneuvering the shuttle during its numerous scientific experiments air force lieutenant commander michael anderson was colombia's payload commander married with two children anderson was the son of an air force pilot raised around military bases he had been in space once before

04:26:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=15961s)

in space once before on a 1998 shuttle flight that delivered equipment to the russian space station mir anderson was in charge of the shuttle's science experiments and said he was energized by the potential for discovery yeah i am excited about this flight this is a really exciting flight i think if you take each of the payloads that we have on this flight you sit down and you really look at it and you really study them you realize that there's tremendous potential mission specialist david brown was a u.s navy captain a pilot and a flight surgeon he became an astronaut in 1996 and was making his first trip into space although his focus was on specialized experiments brown recognized the broad appeal of space exploration well the dream of going to space is not unique to just astronauts or americans or any particular nationality uh it's it's a broadly held dream so the fact that other countries and other people want to do that is no surprise colombia's other mission specialist was laurel clark a u.s navy commander and a flight surgeon she was aboard submarines after medical school before becoming an astronaut dr clark spoke from the shuttle just hours before the columbia lost communications with nasa ground controllers good morning houston [Music] we're getting ready for a big day up here had a great time on orbit and really excited to come back home laurel clark leaves behind an eight-year-old son frederica whitfield cnn family members are understandably reluctant to speak out so quickly after this horrible tragedy although some actually are seeking to make their views known here are some of the reactions from some of the loved ones i can't believe it's happened he was so happy for him

04:28:02 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=16082s)

it was top of his life and that's what's happening i i have a connection with him an email yeah and just two days ago i got the last email from him and he was so happy and he said that he's so happy that he doesn't want to come back to us and he didn't come back to us there was complete panic at the moment i realized that there was something something had gone wrong i was i had the tv on in here and the computer on in the other room and i was running in between trying to find out what was going on it was it was awful at church services throughout this area in houston especially around the johnson space center the grief will be very very visible during the services sunday morning miles wolf blitzer in houston we'll check in with you in just a few moments and we will be checking in with story musgrave six-time shuttle veteran first flew in 1983 last flew in 96. quite a storied career if you will excuse that expression stay with us for that after a brief [Music] break [Applause] [Music] so there are many different walks of life with many different reasons to invest at federated we have a wide selection of funds and managed accounts so investors can find the right mix of

04:30:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=16200s)

so investors can find the right mix of products that work best for who they are and how they live for more information about federated and our disciplined approach ask your investment professional [Music] why do 63 percent of americans think financial institutions aren't interested in helping them maybe because they aren't [Music] with h r block financial advisors now everyone can have access to smart financial advice you get investments financial services and retirement planning all on your terms excuse me ah don't look well you're wearing a towel no don't look at the scale maybe you should be eating total cereal i eat special cake thank you you know a study of calcium supplements and reduced calorie diets suggests you could lose more weight and burn more fat by adding more calcium to your diet plan so only total has 100 daily value of calcium special k is hardly any say no more i'll take the total you're still here aren't you yeah just leaving a smart way to lose the weight [Music] welcome back to our special report of the tragedy of the space shuttle columbia we're going to be talking destroy musgrave in just a moment before we do that let's get an update on the latest facts as we know them from anderson

04:32:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=16321s)

facts as we know them from anderson cooper anderson miles thanks very much we can report that human remains have been recovered from the debris field in hemphill texas authorities are assuming they may be that of columbia crew member shuttle debris is being found in yards fields and various other places

throughout the state people are being cautioned against touching whatever they might find because it might be toxic in honor of the columbia crew president bush today ordered flags on all federal buildings to be flown at half staff until wednesday the governors in many states have done the same we're now going to take uh chicken uh actually we'll just go back to miles o'brien miles all right anderson thank you very much you know one of the reasons uh we explore space is to push the boundaries of science and for the shuttle columbia the 16 days in space have been completely earmarked for scientific experiments not exaggeration to say that years and years of effort went into getting these scientific experiments together uh and in this case to fly in this particularly long science mission the columbia carried experiments on changes in the spread of flame in space flames do not burn like they do here in the world of gravity an important thing to know when you have an ongoing international space station also flowers that grow in space don't smell the same why well we don't know that was one of the experiments the effects of weightlessness on rats and how that might relate to human beings who spend long term stays in space measurements of atmospheric dust this was the prime experiment for elan ramon the israeli astronaut he was looking at how dust might have something to do with global warming particularly looking at dust storms in the middle east and b and spider behavior and weightlessness was also looked at all in the quest for learning more about the human body performs and in some cases doesn't perform in the absence of gravity all that with an eye toward further exploration one day in space now more than one former astronaut was probably reliving a mission or two before today's events went

[04:34:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=16440s)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=16440s)

events went horribly wrong with us is story musgrave a veteran of six space flights and mae jameson the first african-american woman to fly in space who flew one mission in 1992 i want to begin with you story you had the opportunity on your last mission uh to make some observations about uh reentry and the heat that is encountered when a shuttle re-enters the atmosphere tell us a little bit about what you saw and what impressed you about it yes myles i think uh heat rejection is uh is a critical factor in in what happened today and uh to get a real feel for how much heat you need to reject if you look at a launch the external tank how much fuel the solids with how much fuel all of that energy that goes into a launch has to come out on the heat of re-entry and so if you look at burning up the amount of fuel it is carried it has to come out in the heat of re-entry on sts-80 my final flight in 1986 after an 18-day flight i had no responsibility no technical responsibility during the entry so i had the opportunity to simply stand with all my gear on in the flight deck and look out the overhead window so from your point of view if you'll have the nose going that way the tail toward you and i am here looking at the overhead window from mach about 23 down to mach 10 the amount of fire that you are engulfed in you cannot believe that you are not evaporated in a flash but what is amazing is you are absolutely enveloped in this flame but the flame paints your shock waves and so the the flame is a medium and you see the supersonic shock waves in there you see this blue lightning coming off the nose that is energizing

[04:36:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=16561s)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=16561s)

coming off the nose that is energizing this whole pattern whenever a rocket jet an attitude control jet goes off the whole thing dissipates and it comes back in a flash wow and i did standing up i was able to hold a camcorder in the window and record that and show my fellow crew members with a little monitor what was amazing in the s turns for navigation and to manage our energy in those s turns on one side of the tail i had a different auroral color and on the other side i would have a different color that's fascinating this was really amazing to me when you witnessed that you had to be impressed with how much work these tiles have to do these little tiles little teeny pieces laid together like bricks which are very fragile and yet uh really hold uh your lives in in their hands if you'll excuse that giving it personification but nevertheless uh it's a fragile system and yet a hearty system isn't it i would call it a fragile system i'd call it a very critically vulnerable system in which everything has to come out perfectly i look upon launch is a beautiful butterfly that's bolted on a bullet but today of course the emphasis is on re-entry and how tens of thousands of tiles have got to do their thing let's go to may jamison uh may you flew in 1992 and did you have a similar experience on re-entry did you have this sense of being enveloped in tremendous heat well what the what story described really talked about

looking at looking out the window when you're actually seated you don't have that sensation basically what you're feeling is that all of a sudden you're getting weight again you've been in space for a number of days the members of the crew who are on the flight deck are watching the computers watching what's going on to try to make sure that nothing is going awry but you don't

04:38:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=16680s)

that nothing is going awry but you don't actually have that feeling because you're not seeing it which is what's remarkable about what story was able to observe it seems like a wild ride may is it coming back in yeah it doesn't um no you're going you're bleeding off a lot of energy but what's going on inside of the shuttle i didn't feel like it was a very wild ride in fact it was fairly tame from what you expect but i think that the comments you made about the tiles is very true the tiles do an incredible amount of work because they have to insulate the shuttle in a very small distance of space and they've done that task um many times story let's go back to what you're saying about it being a fragile system um that in a way i think a lot of people will say wait a minute fragile it's it's it's coming in at beginning at mach 25 slowing down to zero ultimately at the runway shedding off heat all the while entering the atmosphere under tremendous stress surely it has to be a hardy system no sir i don't look upon it as a hearty system the engineering has to be perfect and the engineering has been perfect it's a marvel that the system has been able to pull it off i still call it a very very fragile system a tile is like this a tile is about this thick but it weighs nothing and you can feel it even when it's almost white hot because it has no heat capacity you can push your finger right into it all of that has to work you can have mock erosion in which your supersonic uh you can have mock erosion it can eat you eat you in into pieces stories there's all kinds of very high-tech engineering involved i'm curious when you talk about fragile i would think of many times when you talk about systems as fragile if you talk about the human body is fragile if you find the right if the right problem the right accident comes along then something that seems relatively

04:40:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=16801s)

then something that seems relatively minor can be catastrophic but at the same time the human body is remarkable i think if you look at it in fragile in that sense then you bet get a better feel for what story is describing that it does this tree has this tremendous uh precision engineering that has worked over and over again but if you get to a point where you have the right accident then something catastrophic can occur that's an interesting analogy i hadn't heard it put that way but that seems to make a lot of sense to me story musgrave we've been talking a lot about that piece of foam which fell off the shuttle on ascent not long after liftoff uh struck the wet left wing nasa looked at it didn't determine that there was anything really serious there or that was the conclusion at least at the time do you think that that is ultimately going to be a dead end or is that something that um ultimately will lead to some sort of conclusion as to what went wrong i am sorry miles i just don't have the technical information i just don't know what to say on that one all right well we appreciate you being honest and candid and not getting into the realm of speculation may jameson um your thoughts do you feel fairly confident that nasa is going to uh as uh bill reedy uh described it earlier head of human space flight said we'll find it we'll fix it and we'll move on do you think that's going to happen i think that definitely an answer will be found and i have a feeling it'll be found very quickly because remember the shuttle has an incredible amount of data and telemetry that's coming down constantly an answer will be found we'll figure out how to fix some parts of it you can't say that every phase of human space flight is always going to be survivable nor can we make it survivable but how we move on with the space program is really going to depend on the commitment of the american public and how we react to this i remark that when i was a little girl and the apollo 1 fire occurred we found out what happened and we said let's go to the moon and i think that's what we need to do now is to really

04:42:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=16921s)

now is to really find out what happened fix what we can to the best of our ability but don't say that we can't do this we can't explore space we can't expand human presence story until we make it completely um completely without any problems story you um you became an astronaut 1967 and lived through all that just

briefly as we as we take away from that uh having that experience apollo 1 challenger and looking at this from from afar do you have any doubt in your mind that the u.s will return to space with human beings inside spaceships miles i have no doubt at all we have to go forward for lots of reasons uh we will have other accidents they're unavoidable even uh since challenger i'm incredibly proud of this team i have seen nothing but the right kinds of decisions the right kind of actions the right kind of tender love and care i mean really explicit care i'm incredibly proud of this team but we are going to have more accidents but i think what we have to have is a vision for where we are going into the future we have no vision for what vehicle is to come next we have no ideas about what we might do next not only in terms of human space flight but also robotic missions to explore the planets the moons of the planets in other words where would we like to be 10 years from now 15 years from now we have to think ahead and we just have to keep pushing forward we we need to get a low-cost reliable access to space and things like that and we need to blend the robotic missions with the human mission so we can optimize our pursuit of space flight story musgrave shuttle veterans six flights mae jameson first african-american woman to fly in space thank you both for being with us tonight on this special report on the tragedy of the space shuttle columbia we will take a break when we return we'll look at the issue of the aging shuttle fleet a lot of people will tell you that's a misnomer the shuttle's airframes designed for 100 missions this

04:44:02 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=17042s)

airframes designed for 100 missions this was the 28th mission of the space shuttle columbia although it was more than 20 years old question is were they old or were they made new every time around stay with us [Music] thank you [Music] when making a decision about your heart trust your brain the st joseph hospital heart center in orange it's treasure's greatest accessory sale ever featuring the world's most famous name and accessories and occasional pieces maitland smith this floor sample sale offers you an extra 20 off treasures already reduced prices that's an extra 20 savings on maitland smith lamps end tables objects day art and some of the most imaginative pieces you've ever seen this sale is limited to the million dollars in inventory in stock it's first come first served so hurry to treasures furniture in irvine east of freeway five at alton parkway it's sit and sleep's january clearance sale where we'll eat your interest for two years save hundreds on simmons sealy serta spring air stearns a foster marlux or chatham and wells and pay zero deposit and zero interest for two years with minimum monthly payments plus free local delivery don't miss sin sleep's january clearance sale where we'll eat your interest for two years sit and sleep will beat anyone's advertised pricer your mattress is free

04:46:02 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=17162s)

advertised pricer your mattress is free pretty good you ready let's do it around here things aren't always what you expect like the mercedes-benz m class it starts at 37 670 with eight airbags emergency sensing brake assist and scheduled maintenance [Music] when the space shuttles were designed in the mid 70s it was thought they would fly much more frequently each of them was designed to fly a hundred missions this was colombia's 28th mission and the 113th mission in the space shuttle history so far the question is are they too old to be flying some have brought those questions out but anybody who spent any time looking at space shuttles and how they're treated to say the least they are babied something old is nothing new for nasa's manned space flight effort dealing with a spacecraft designed in the 70s and launch facilities built during the moon race the first sign of trouble came here deep in the tangle of wires and pipes inside the aft compartment of atlantis in june an eagle-eyed inspector saw this a crack no bigger than a third of an inch a small thing but in a critical spot the 12-inch pipe that carries liquid hydrogen rocket fuel from the shuttle's big external tank to its main engines the worst case scenario is that you could continue to crack break off a piece of the material but if that material breaks off and gets

04:48:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=17280s)

that material breaks off and gets ingested by the main engine it could be a bad day it could be a catastrophic event for us more inspections ordered more cracks found about a dozen in all the fleet was grounded and didamore called for the aerospace equivalent of a full court press led by chief engineer ralph rowe he has the briefing charts to prove it we were working 300 actions in parallel so we we had a team structured to handle a workforce of 200 and 300 action items and we were meeting on a daily basis until we got a decent handle on what the problem was they now believe it was a flaw in the way the pipes were made a quarter century ago but simply ordering new parts from the manufacturer was not a viable option the jigs and the tooling and even some of the people are now going away we have now been in contact with them and they are pulling the tooling out to go manufacture some additional lines and they also uh pulling back what we call some of the gray beards that understand how you go build those lines so instead the cracks were welded over and polished smooth by the steadiest hands in the hangar we're not going to fly with something we don't understand so we are going to take a time out the shuttle team will likely push for continued improvements to the avionics hardier wheels and tires replacement of old tape data recorders with digital technology even replacing clunky old circuit boards you cannot replace this vehicle with the exact capabilities that we have and be cost effective at it but in the space business even the first step can be daunting while engineers burn the midnight oil to fix the fuel line cracks another team found some badly cracked bearings in the 37 year old crawler that takes a stacked shuttle out to the pad miles o'brien cnn houston and that report came several months ago the issue of those cracks in the fuel lines unlikely to have anything to do with this but the general issue of age and fatigue in metal is an issue that

04:50:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=17401s)

and fatigue in metal is an issue that will be looked at randy average a veteran veteran of the challenger investigation he's been with us all day helping us understand some of the technicalities to what extent do you think randy that the possibility of age or metal fatigue might come into play here well the key here is reliability is a factor that directly affects safety and age always is a factor in reliability design and age cycles maintenance program all that comes down to the reliability uh the original vision of the shuttle program was a 10-year program each orbiter designed for a hundred missions with a two-week turnaround of course we all know that's not the actual uh track record of the time and frequency of flight of the shuttle not even close as a matter of fact the turnaround appeared turned out to be much more complicated let's uh talk then about something that struck me about that piece and something that ron didimer said which stands in stark contrast to the days before challenger which is those cracks were found and they called a timeout they've had a lot of timeouts of late uh there was a problem with the wiring a couple summers ago grounded the entire fleet to look at several nicks and wires all throughout the fleet of four at the time it seems as if there had been a sea change in the way nasa thought after challenger would you agree well the whole purpose of the challenger investigation in 1986 was to find a new way of doing business in regard to quality and accountability of management and that the problems found at the lowest working levels would find their way reliably and accurately to the management staff for proper review and decision for safety of launch questions uh in in regard to the design we're talking about a design that's from the 1960s and it's clearly time that the united states and other countries cooperate in looking to the future and looking to new designs and ways of

04:52:02 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=17522s)

looking to new designs and ways of coming up with the funding for that and and expanding the fleet of orbiters from four to a fleet that is of a useful size for the near-term and long-term future all right but randy do you think in your heart of hearts that nasa has been flying the shuttle safely post challenger i can say from being an investigator that nasa on a regular working basis has tremendous technical problems that that are just amazing that are accomplished and as far we're talking human beings here nasa does what is humanly possible to address this and and what i refer to as the nasa method it's the method which has been developed by nasa over the the last 40 or so years in the national aerospace uh organizations prior to that like naca for example that that was prior to nasa the nasa method is about quality control and precision and skill in manufacturing and and training and people are human there's a limit to what we can expect humans to accomplish randy avera thanks for all your efforts on our behalf today and we will be checking in with you

as this investigation unfolds from the start when the president heard that nasa had lost contact with the shuttle columbia mr bush feared the worst cnn susan malvo visits the situation room on this somber day in honor of those lost the flag at the white house lowered at half staff president bush once again charged with carrying out the somber duty of bringing the nation together in time of tragedy my fellow americans this day has brought terrible news and great sadness to our country at nine o'clock this morning mission control in houston lost contact with our space shuttle columbia

04:54:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=17640s)

columbia a short time later debris was seen falling from the skies above texas the columbia is lost there are no survivors six americans and one israeli lost people the president said assumed great risk in the service to all humanity the cause in which they died will continue mankind has led into the darkness beyond our world by the inspiration of discovery and the longing to understand our journey into space will go on just after nine o'clock this morning at camp david president bush is notified by his chief of staff that nasa has lost contact with the shuttle at 10 30 he's briefed by nasa's director and decides to return to the white house early the situation room at the white house goes into full gear notifying all the principals by 12 30 the president is back in the oval office when nasa's director tells him there are no survivors 15 minutes later mr bush standing at his desk holds a conference call with the victim's families who are gathered around a speaker phone at the kennedy space center he tells them we express our love and appreciation for all those who died today i want the loved ones to know there are millions of americans praying for you including me and laura it's an incredibly tough day for you may god bless you all i wish i was there to hug cry and comfort you right now in a poignant moment a white house aide who was with the president says after the call a somber mr bush briefly excused himself to the executive residence the president also called israeli prime minister ariel sharon to offer his condolences for the israeli astronaut lost and the president received calls from world leaders from mexico canada and even those recently at odds with the president over a stand with iraq france and russia it was a big test for the department of homeland security its new secretary governor tom ridge able to collect and assess information

04:56:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=17761s)

collect and assess information quickly to assign fema the lead role in recovery and to reassure the american people that no matter how tragic this disaster was it was not the result of terrorism suzanne alvo cnn the white house it's been an emotional day for all of us here at cnn for all of us in this country i'm miles o'brien thank you for being with us to close out this hour we thought we'd take you back to earlier in the columbia mission with words and pictures from high above the earth happier times three two one we have booster ignition and liftoff of space shuttle columbia with a multitude of national and international space research experiments from the time i was about four years old i wanted to be an astronaut i couldn't be any more excited about a space mission than i am about this one it's beyond imagination until you actually get up and see it and experience it and feel it [Music] good morning houston we're getting ready for a big day up here had a great time on orbit and really excited to come back home in columbia houston we see your tire pressure messages and we did not copy your last this day has brought terrible news and great sadness to our country at nine o'clock this morning mission control in houston lost contact with our space shuttle columbia the columbia is lost there are no survivors this is indeed a tragic day for the nasa family for the families of the astronauts who flew on sts-107 and likewise tragic

04:58:03 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=17883s)

who flew on sts-107 and likewise tragic for the nation it's just pure shock disbelief this is unreal i mean you come out here expecting to see a shuttle land and it's just not there i'm crying because seven people got lives got lost in this we're devastated because of the events that unfolded this morning there's a certain amount of shock in our system because we have suffered the loss of seven family members but our thoughts and our prayers go out to the families of rick and willie david and kelpana michael laurel and elan true heroes and we are suffering for the events that have happened this morning she'd been working towards that goal of

getting up there and i'm thankful she at least got to do that and i just wish i could have had a chance to actually hear back from her what it was like and we're going to miss her we are a nation of explorers we have all that's why this great nation has come to what it is and the space program will go on too for that reason these astronauts knew the dangers and they faced them willingly knowing they had a high and noble purpose in life because of their courage and daring and idealism we will miss them all the more

05:00:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=18001s)

unlike wall street your life doesn't stop every day at four [Music] your hopes and dreams go beyond stocks and bonds you want to guard and grow your portfolio and things more valuable than portfolios at merrell lynch our financial advisors know your financial life goes beyond wall street so their advice goes further too [Music] introducing if we see your financial life in total we make it all add up to more [Music] the first indications were of the loss of sensors temperature sensors in the hydraulic systems on the left wing we stepped outside again and just listened to it it was kind of like a a big thundering noise like a thunder cloud would cause in the distance then it just kept on and on and on they were followed seconds and minutes later by several other problems i walked outside and it was a streak of smoke going over the house and then you could just hear there's like planes falling out of sky i couldn't see it but you could just hear it including lots of tire pressure indications on the left main gear all i heard was just a rumbling and a blow up that was it that's kind of like building shook that was all and then indications of excessive structural heating went

05:02:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=18121s)

of excessive structural heating went across the road to mail some letters and something fell down in front of me as a piece of metal it was more than a piece of metal it was a piece of history this is a cnn special report colombia a shuttle tragedy and welcome to the cnn center in atlanta i'm anderson cooper we are covering this story as we have throughout the day from all angles in the u.s and overseas in a moment we'll go to texas where the shuttle was lost the debris is being found and the investigation has begun cnn's wolf blitzer is at the johnson space center in houston ed lavendera is in nagadoshas texas where the dust has yet to settle after large pieces of the shuttle have been rained down emery inohosa is in san agustin another key point on the debris field that spans a 200 mile radius first we go to the latest developments to assist in the recovery of shuttle debris flight restrictions have been imposed from cedar creek texas to fort polk louisiana the faa has banned planes from flying below 3 000 feet over that area where debris hit the ground and a wide area it is pilots have also been warned of a drifting cloud of very small particles that may cause visibility problems we'll have more on that in a moment human remains believed to be one of the astronauts have been recovered in hemp hill texas that is the scene right there a helmet and a patch from a flight suit have also been found in other locations a hotline has been set up for people who think they found pieces of the shuttle disaster locating and recovering the debris will probably take days perhaps even weeks f-16s from the naval air station in fort worth have been sent out to map the debris field it is an area that currently covers several hundred square miles but could grow larger in the days ahead we begin our coverage this hour with wolf blitzer at the johnson space center in texas where there is shock and sadness seven members of the nasa family are gone wolf anderson seven members

05:04:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=18241s)

are gone wolf anderson seven members they spent 16 days in space but with only 16 minutes to go there was an ominous silence followed by a huge boom and streaks of debris falling from the skies this was a remarkable awful day for everyone involved for everyone watching television for everyone who knew anything at all about this space shuttle columbia cnn's frederica whitfield takes a look back at these horrible events early saturday before sunrise in florida good weather was expected at the shuttle's landing site at the kennedy space center the mission's only glitch so far had been a pair of malfunctioning dehumidifiers which raised temperatures inside the shuttle's laboratory payload module slightly higher than desired as the sun rose in cape canaveral florida the early morning fog burned off and mission control gave the seven astronauts the go-ahead to come home on time mission control radioed the instructions you are go for the

deorbit burn shortly afterwards colombia begins its descent these were the last words heard from colombia in columbia houston we see your tire pressure messages and we did not copy your last roger at about 9 a.m eastern time nasa officials lost contact with colombia as it soared over north central texas the craft was at an altitude of about two hundred thousand feet traveling at twelve thousand five hundred miles per hour and was about sixteen minutes away from the estimated landing time the loss of contact was the first sign of any trouble communications with columbia were lost about eight am central time about ten ten minutes ago fearing the worst nasa ordered flight controllers to pull out emergency procedures and ordered them to retain all their records there was no further communication and no further tracking data debris was

05:06:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=18361s)

and no further tracking data debris was found across a large area of southeast texas nasa issued a warning that any debris in the area should not be handled because it's hazardous frederico whitfield cnn many areas of texas have spotted debris one area where our cnn's maria nejosa is standing by in san agustin texas they found several pieces maria tell us what you're seeing what you're hearing where you are well you know wolf when i first got here this afternoon anyone you talk to in san agustin will tell you the same thing they felt the earth moving under their feet they felt their houses beginning to shake and tremble and a huge loud rumbling noise and then people say that they started to hear things literally thudding falling to the ground we're about a hundred yards away from this house here on evitt's farm and if you just walk a hundred yards you'll see this piece of debris that literally seems like it was shot down from the sky it is standing straight into the earth you can see some of the bolts right here it's a very gray porous texture and on this side around if we can get around to the other side you're able to see a number of screws and bolts right here in line some more charred area now this piece here is a piece of tubing that uh the evitt family moved only because it was on their driveway and they were afraid that if they didn't move it it might in fact burst someone's tire uh there is um a lot of debris that has been found on the ebbetts farm we're joined by ronnie joe and katie evitt and uh they have been collecting you have a total of how many pieces of debris uh as far as i know uh right off the hand about six and uh maybe across the road over here my neighbors come this afternoon when y'all came and uh he said he knows of three on his place property right and one of those pieces that you saw ronnie joe is actually pretty big it's about five feet

05:08:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=18480s)

pretty big it's about five feet long isn't it right it's uh over across from what we call a pond a lot of people called it a tank but it's a wet that i couldn't get you all in there where y'all could film it and everything but uh if uh you you'll have you let go on our atv or whatever and uh to pick it up yeah big piece now maybe you can be uh rolling some of the video that was taken by katie of it um this is video of some of the other pieces that they found on their land katie i have to ask you you're you're a young a young woman what was going on for you when you were taking that video it's just devastating i didn't know i wasn't really sure i just knew it was part of a space shuttle and it was really interesting and i tried to get what i could of it yeah and and what are the young people saying to you are young people pretty devastated in this area yes i am that i have a friend that lived in colorado and she was like you know this this you know a space shuttle had no reason to come over colorado's you know it'd be only coming over texas and stuff and she said you know it's it's weird you know because this is just happening all to us and this is unusual in this community for something like this to be happening yeah yeah now you know something that's interesting uh a wolf is that you know i i'm from the city of course and you come into this area it's huge spans the evidence have about uh 400 acres and i kept on asking how is it that you're able to spot these pieces because some of them are not necessarily large tell me what you told me before ronnie joe about how you're able to spot these some pieces that are quite small even well when you're when you're out on a place and you take your day after day you ride down the old roads and everything else and you notice a little bit of pieces of this or that or something moved this way or that way you just notice it when you drive by it and uh this piece right here in particular when i drove by a day the sun was coming up this morning and uh it was shining out here in the

05:10:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=18601s)

and uh it was shining out here in the pasture this is one of my hay metals and there's nothing supposed to be shining in the hay metal now someone thank you very much for joining us and you've been really kind to us all day another thing that we have just heard that was discovered in the area of san agustin a piece of cloth about the size of a skirt we heard orange cloth the color of the jumpers that the nassau astronauts wear when they're in the shuttle back to you in the studio so said uh thanks very much to marina hosa in san augustine texas and we're going to put a map up to show our viewers so precisely where a lot of this debris has already been spotted going all the way from palestine in texas all the way across to saint augustine uh where marina inna hosa just did her report to nacogdocious that's where we're finding adelaide andera he's standing by there's been a significant amount of debris found where you are and tell our viewers well wolver anyone you talked to here in this area today has a story of exactly what they heard this morning and also of what they've been finding across the area throughout the day you might imagine that many of the television viewers in the dallas fort worth area were able to wake up this morning and to see live coverage of the shuttle it's a rare day where it was such a beautiful day so blue skies and one of those rare opportunities where you could see the space shuttle streaking across the texas sky as it re-entered and headed toward florida a very rare opportunity so a lot of people taking advantage of this ward had been spreading and then as you might imagine a kind of a cone-shaped area heading out from the southeast corner of dallas out toward the east texas and into louisiana we're now understanding and so you might imagine all of these uh back roads of east texas finding debris everywhere here in the in the heart of nacogdoches there's a piece of debris in this parking lot where people have been coming together all day in fact they were also uh north southeast of here there was a helmet presumably of one of the astronauts found upright sitting in a field and it's these scenes like this that really bring home the the devastating fact

05:12:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=18720s)

fact of what we have witnessed here today uh many people describing just how painful and and uh and how torturous it has been to see all of this debris falling from the sky ed uh before i let you go uh with all this debris falling from this guy have you heard any reports of any close calls of people who might have been injured by this debris we i haven't heard of any but maybe you've spoken to some people who got uh some close calls no we've been making calls on on stuff like this all day wolf and we also have other cnn crews that have been traveling throughout the area here in east texas we haven't heard of any major situations there were some indications some earlier reports that perhaps some things when some debris had fallen to the ground it was smoldering it caught some things on fire but fire officials say they're able to quickly contain those so another a miraculous thing a lot of residents here say that that no one was severely injured on the ground thank god for that uh ed lavender dara in nacogdoches texas ed thanks very very much two important points we can't stress enough that if you get anywhere near this debris it could be hazardous to your health that nasa says that it may contain these toxic propellants don't get near it don't touch it also it's against the law to try to take it away it belongs to the u.s government if you do see some of this debris call this number the nasa set up a special hotline 281 483-3388 i'll repeat that number two eight one eight or you can email nasa here at the johnson space center columbia images at nasa.gov columbia images all one word very sad situation here at the johnson space center in houston sad indeed around the united states indeed around the world anderson wolff thanks very much you know all day long we've been seeing these remarkable radar images of the debris field for more on that we're going to go to a cnn meteorologist orland sydney who's standing by orland as you look at that radar picture what are you seeing well right now we're not seeing a whole lot at all but it was a whole different story earlier this afternoon and of course this morning take a look i want to show

05:14:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=18841s)

this morning take a look i want to show you just quickly i'm going to give you a quick primer on radar technology what we actually have i'm showing you is a little doppler radar site and the rain and precipitation off to the east now this is generally what happens you send a beam of radiation out from the radar site it gets scattered by the particles in the atmosphere that could be rain it could be debris it could be insects even birds and then some of that is reflected back to the radar site that's detected and that's what you see on the

radar display this is what we saw just about all day long today starting about 905 eastern time we started to pick up on the national weather service radar a signature that looked a lot like the debris trailing from about dallas texas down south to louisiana this is the same image now that we've seen all day long today we started to see it taper off a little bit by about three o'clock most of this bright red we think are the larger pieces from the space shuttle also probably the very dense pieces that are coming down close together this is exactly what you've been seeing on the right side of your screen this is just the radar image of that debris as it made entry into the earth's atmosphere it looks like most of that is now out of the atmosphere about three o'clock eastern time i did look at the radar again i saw some very very light look like snow very light radar echoes and that i was told by weather service is probably things like propellant maybe very very light pieces of insulation that will drift down into the atmosphere probably for the next 24 hours or so anderson orland that picture we're looking at that red stream of debris do you know what elevation that is at what altitude in general i think this is probably a couple of thousand feet up the radar site on the particular image we were looking at has a range of about 143 miles and if you look at the radar itself actually the radar beam travels up at an angle so you can sort of measure down from where you think this might be so i'd say it's probably about 20 30 000 feet up at the point that we saw it all right orlan sydney thanks very much appreciate it well coming up in a moment one family

05:16:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=18961s)

well coming up in a moment one family story watching tv today they saw a loved one perish and for this family however it is a double tragedy they are still recovering from the tragedy of 9 11. and later on i'll be speaking to dennis tito the space tourist who flew on the space shuttle [Music] [Applause] great news for him i promised everyone we'd expand the network by tomorrow fred those 20 computers i requested should have been 200. fred how could it be a virus if it says i love you dealing with technology is hard that's why cdw makes buying it as simple as possible by having the technology you need in stock like the hp laserjet 4600 dn printer it's network ready reliable and prints high quality color as fast as black and white hp and cdw the right technology right away [Music] so what's the most powerful treatment we provide in the fight against cancer [Music] [Applause] hope the st joseph hospital regional cancer center in orange it's treasure's greatest accessory sale ever featuring the world's most famous name and accessories and occasional pieces maitland smith this floor sample sale offers you an extra 20 off treasures already reduced prices that's an extra 20 savings on maitland smith lamps end

05:18:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=19081s)

savings on maitland smith lamps end tables objects they aren't and some of the most imaginative pieces you've ever seen this sale is limited to the million dollars in inventory in stock it's first come first served so hurry to treasures furniture in irvine east of freeway 5 at alton parkway the burn can stop you in your tracks you never know when to expect it do you have persistent heartburn that keeps coming back two or more days a week even though you've treated it and changed your diet you may have acid reflux disease you worry about the risk of long-term problems you worry about the chance of serious damage ask your doctor how prescription prevacid can help one previously relieves heartburn for up to 24 hours prevacid heals the damage and to keep the damage from coming back your doctor may ask you to stay on prevacid call for your free prevacid information kit and learn more about the long-term risks of acid reflux disease previsit is a low occurrence of side effects such as diarrhea abdominal pain and nausea other serious stomach conditions may still exist i got help learned how to handle the disease and the risks in ways that make sense for me call today and get the help you need from your doctor and privacy [Music] one of those brave astronauts that you just saw there killed today was laurel clark 41 years old a u.s navy commander a wife a mother sadly her family has become used to tragedy her aunt and uncle doug and betty havilland lost their 41 year old son murdered on 9 11 in the world trade center this is their story we had the feeling

05:20:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=19201s)

this is their story we had the feeling of deja vu when this happened and it's still there betty and doug haviland have been here before anxiously watching the news hoping for any new information about a loved one as soon as you saw that debris beginning to break off from the shuttle became pretty clear that you know they were in real trouble their niece 41 year old laurel clark who was born in ames was one of the astronauts on board the space shuttle columbia when it disappeared and she was very determined to get up into space that was what she wanted to do on september 11 2001 the javalands shared another national tragedy their son tim was in the world trade center towers when terrorists struck one family two horrific events and we've lost a family member in both of them but the tragedy is not for us now it's for laurel's family who are grieving the havalans received an email from laurel in space just last night says hello from above our magnificent planet earth the perspective is truly awe-inspiring this is a terrific mission it's a message doug and betty will forever cherish we feel blessed that she did right and told about the wonderful experiences of being up there and looking down on planet earth we remember her tonight one thing laura clark once said about the dangers she faced as an astronaut she says quote there's a lot of different things that we do during life that could potentially harm us and i choose not to stop doing those things we think of her tonight we'll be right back homeowners what would you do to avoid the stress of qualifying for a home loan anything ameriquest mortgage understands why you hesitate and that's why we've made getting a loan so easy with two decades of experience

05:22:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=19320s)

with two decades of experience ameriquest has perfected the art of the no stress home loan to experience that for yourself call ameriquest at 1-800-320-0168 or go to you aremore.com that's zero one 1-800-32016 eight call ameriquest the company that knows you are more okay your company sells sweaters i need a sweater i call and i get this please enter your catalog id number please enter your catalog id and account number in the state of avaya whether i access you by web or by phone your contact center folks know everything about me i never have to repeat myself and that means when i need a kicking new jacket i'm calling you again reach avaya a higher plane of communication all right wildcats listen up now well dave's dad hears away we're going to be short of third base coach do any of your dads have any experience yeah my dad owns nike coach there's my dad hey guys jelly bean ownership it's for everybody an ameritrade everything you need to trade from real time streaming quotes to 24 7 client services all for 10.99 every online equity trade no matter how many shares you buy wildcats 80 million americans have a share ameritrade what's your share open an account today at ameritrade.com and get 25 commission free internet equity trades and you could be trading the same day you apply [Music]

05:24:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=19440s)

[Music] excuse me sts-87 back in 1997. this is her second flight and elon ramon colonel in the israeli air force he's the prime crew member you probably know the name dennis tito he was the world's first paying space tourist a man whose dream of going to orbit created some controversy and a lot of headlines but who succeeded in visiting the international space station and he joins us tonight dennis thanks for being with us uh your thoughts on this difficult day well obviously this is a a huge tragedy and uh it's it's it's something that uh we're going to remember for a long time and my hope is that it will not set back human space flight to any large degree in the long run you know everyone says that they are aware of the dangers when they go into space when you went into space i mean how how present was it in your mind i was absolutely aware of it it's something that goes with the territory and uh i made the decision that uh you know this was my one chance in life to achieve achieve a dream and if it meant risking my life so be it and i would do the same thing again you know a lot of people today have talked about the passion of space flight that it's not just a profession for for these astronauts it's a calling it's something many of them said from the age of four i believe uh the commander of this of the columbia said since age of four he wanted to be to be an astronaut can you explain at all what it is i mean what is that drive what is that calling well when you have a childhood dream it stays with you for the rest of your life and with space flight uh the dream when realized is it goes well beyond anything you could have imagined uh when you're a child i cannot describe the feelings that i had being in space is just

05:26:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=19560s)

is just unimaginable you were in space for eight days you were at the international space station uh obviously the shuttle you know much of the shuttle's mission is is is going back and forth to the space station do you worry about the future of the international space station if in fact nasa cuts back on shuttle flights well i'm worried about the future because if you if you look at the at the challenger accident the shuttle was grounded for close to three years well that would present a big problem for the international space station because it needs supply and it would probably have to be unmanned for a period of time which could create some problems as far as whether congress would continue to support the station but the station itself as far as i understand and correct me if i'm wrong can can last in space unmanned well not not exactly because it needs to be reboosted uh periodically because it loses altitude in its orbit and eventually would would burn up in the atmosphere now for those who are on the space station right now uh they're not trapped i mean people should not be concerned they they have enough food i believe i heard until may and they do have a way to get off the station is that right there is plenty of food and plenty of water on the station plenty of cds they'll be able to stay there for a long time and they have the soyuz lifeboat which uh we're able to land with and and uh it's a very safe vehicle yeah what is that like i mean you you've actually been in the soyuz so tell me tell me the experience well it's it's the old-fashioned space capsule uh from you know 25 30 years ago that americans used to fly on except they used to splash down in in the ocean instead the soyuz uh blasts through the atmosphere uh parachutes down and and lands on land a little bit of a bump

05:28:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=19680s)

and lands on land a little bit of a bump uh as opposed to a slash a splashdown why is the space shuttle so important to to to nasa to the united states to space exploration well the space shuttle is a marvelous vehicle it has a huge payload carrying capacity can carry seven crew members it is really a work of art and it's just very sad that uh you know we had this catastrophe occurred today but it's it's our method of getting to space and it's essential that we get back there well president bush made sure in his a very emotional speech earlier today to say the space program will continue the us will continue their efforts into space dennis tito we appreciate you joining us tonight on what uh is a very difficult day for for for many americans thanks very much dennis thank you well the investigation is still at an early stage so is the recovery effort we'll recap the latest developments when we return [Music] [Applause] [Music] it's almost 200 000 people in over 40 countries working as one [Applause] it's 10 inventions every business [Music] and not all day them automotive [Music] it's going from the indy 500 to the fortune 500. it's dirt fire where slowing down is not an option to most people this is an ordinary housefly but to a forensic entomologist it is

05:30:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=19801s)

but to a forensic entomologist it is sarcophaga a critical piece of evidence revealing exact time temperature and sometimes even cause of death find out how forensic experts use clues like these to solve crimes on forensic files monday through friday on court tv going to the airport hey bill you stayed here too yeah i want to share a cab deal all right great hotel yeah pricey though it wasn't that bad yeah if you're a ceo why what did you pay here's my bill i hadn't paid nearly that not even half you got ripped hey buddy i can get you a great deal on the brooklyn bridge save up to 70 on hotels worldwide hotels.com the best prices at the best places guaranteed [Music] well you see right there people crying openly along streets throughout texas was not an uncommon sight today they shared their grief for the loss of the shuttle columbia and its crew of seven a somber crowd of more than 500 people paused for a moment of silence near the astronaut memorial at cape kennedy the monument is engraved with the names of 17 other astronauts killed in the line of duty and in dallas today dozens gathered in an area where pieces of fallen debris had been roped off you see it there they placed flowers on the ground out of respect for the seven columbia crew let's take a look at the latest developments in the shuttle columbia tragedy this hour the faa has established a restricted flight zone along the field of debris that field stretches from just outside dallas to fort polk louisiana planes in the area cannot fly below 3000 feet now officials say that will make it easier for authorities to collect debris and keep any unnecessary aircraft away there is of course international

05:32:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=19920s)

away there is of course international grief and mourning for colombia's crew indian prime minister atal bihari vash payee sent a letter to president bush through his country is in mourning as well indian-born astronaut kalpana chalwa was one of the seven killed on board colombia mr bush expressed condolences to israeli prime minister ariel sharon for the loss of israel's first astronaut in space colonel ilan ramon the grief stricken in houston have set up a makeshift memorial at johnson space center you see it there this evening a large crowd gathered there to pay their respects and remember the lost members of shuttle columbia the main question surrounding the columbia of mishap of course is what went wrong and right now it is still anybody's guess it might be that way for many months cnn space correspondent miles o'brien delves now into a few of the almost infinite number of possibilities first things first nasa starts eliminating possible causes we have no indication that the mishap was caused by anything or anyone on the ground from there the potential causes are innumerable given the one million parts and complex operations that go into any shuttle mission as rocket scientists like to say it's always what you do not expect because if you thought of it you'd have fixed it one of the space shuttle program's greatest achievements was the development of the insulating tiles that protect the shuttle on re-entry give me one favorite more than 20 000 of them on each shuttle made of silica fiber they are cool to the touch just seconds after being exposed to a 2200 degree kiln while they have been a great achievement they have been a continuing problem for shuttle managers they are brittle and can easily be knocked off during launch the shuttle can land if some insulating tiles are damaged or break off as seen here on the space shuttle discovery but if too many tiles are gone the shuttle would get too hot the heat could actually cause the structure of the orbiter to break during colombia's launch a piece of

05:34:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=20041s)

during colombia's launch a piece of insulation from the external fuel tank broke off and perhaps damaged some ceramic tiles but shuttle managers determined it was safe for the mission to continue we can't discount discount that there might be a connection but we have to caution you and ourselves that that we can't rush to rush to judgment on it another likely point of focus for investigators the attitude of the shuttle on re-entry if the nose goes too high or too low the shuttle could tumble and break up the belly of the shuttle is well protected but if you get in the wrong orientation at any moment during that re-entry you are not protected on all sides and so you know once you start coming apart there's there's nothing you can do columbia was the oldest shuttle just last year engineers found stress and age cracks in shuttle engine parts while those problems experts say are not likely to be the cause of this disaster there could be some other unforeseen age related problem with the shuttle whatever the cause there may be clues in the data transmitted from the shuttle before communication was lost we will be pouring over that data 24 hours a day for the foreseeable future nasa has undertaken major investigations several times before the last after the challenger disaster randy avera worked on that investigation into why the challenger disintegrated over the ocean shortly after liftoff what we do not have as far as we know today on the columbia crash today is close up telescopic photos and videos of the actual effects that were taking place on the orbiter the first job finding all the pieces that can be found looking for clues in the fields forests and backyards of eastern texas and western louisiana miles o'brien cnn atlanta well of course the nerve center for columbia's journey was mission control at houston's johnson

05:36:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=20160s)

was mission control at houston's johnson space center that's where wolf blitzer is standing by wolf it's hard to forget that that image earlier today at mission control uh when when the flight engineers realized they had lost contact lost communication with the shuttle columbia it was shocking to all the people here they couldn't believe it only 16 minutes left to go when when they lost that communication they immediately began to fear the worst of course they were hoping for the best the debris was raining throughout the area throughout texas as we just saw people looking for for pieces of that debris eyewitnesses saw what was going on there was a beautiful clear day throughout most of texas today and they heard the explosion and they saw the debris raining down three two one we have booster ignition and liftoff of space shuttle columbia with a

multitude of national and international space research experiments from the time i was about four years old i wanted to be an astronaut i couldn't be any more excited about a space mission than i am about this one it's beyond imagination until you actually get up and see it and experience it and feel it good morning houston we are getting ready for a big day up here had a great time on orbit and really excited to come back home in columbia houston we see your tire pressure messages and we did not copy your last [Applause] this day has brought terrible news and great sadness to our country at nine o'clock this morning mission control in houston lost contact with our space shuttle columbia

05:38:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=20281s)

let's go to nacogdoches texas that's the scene of a lot of pieces of debris that have been falling from the skies that fell from the sky earlier today the mayor of nacogdoches roy blake is joining us mr mayor thanks very much for joining us your community like every community in texas indeed throughout the country is shaken but how much debris has fallen around your area uh we have uh it within the city we have received over a thousand phone calls and we have somewhere around 500 pieces of debris what are you doing with those pieces of debris how do you pick them up who takes charge of them well we're working with the county judge who is the emergency management coordinator for the county i'm the emergency manager director for the city and we are identifying those of the position uh first and and if it's a significant piece we're trying to uh secure that uh piece and and secure the integrity of that debris so so far it's just you're just keeping everything on the ground you're not removing it is that right that's correct uh we are not removing it there have been some instances where some citizens unknowingly found a piece and and didn't know what to do with it brought it to city hall or brought it to the to the command post at the county but we are certainly encouraging people not to do that uh to notify the proper authorities and and let them deal with it we're told that that could be very hazardous to people's health because of the so-called toxic propellants that may be on the on the debris if somebody accidentally touches it what should they do well we heard a report from the director of the memorial hospital there have been some people that touched the debris no one has had any symptoms of of any kind of illness they were concerned obviously and you just take normal precautions wash the areas that you touched it with

05:40:02 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=20402s)

wash the areas that you touched it with and and look for any further signs a rash or dizziness or you know some things like that but there have been no reports of any injuries because of touching the debris as you know mr mayor it's against the law for someone to take the debris to steal it if you will u.s government property is there what is the fine what is the penalty if you catch somebody trying to steal some of the debris well we have uh we've held news briefings every two hours uh since two o'clock today and that is certainly some one thing that we uh remind the people about that it is a crime to remove that and the seriousness of that and uh we are you know constantly reminding them of that it's almost a miracle that no one so far at least appears to have been injured or hit by the falling debris there probably were some close cases you've spoken to a lot of people in your community what what can you tell us well it is it is a miracle uh by the grace of god that no one so far that we know of has was injured from the falling debris the enormous amount of falling debris and it was early in the morning it was on a weekend not a lot of people out you know who knows why but we're just thankful that no one so far we know off has been injured how are your citizens the people of nacogdoches reacting what are they doing are they setting up makeshift memorial sites bringing flowers to some of these areas what what can you tell us yes sir there has been some of that activity some people obviously uh are showing their emotion by in in that way uh putting flowers out at different different places uh it has been an emotional time and i'm proud of the people of nacogdoches the city and the county not only the the first responders but the volunteers that have stepped forward to uh to help in this situation and everyone

05:42:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=20521s)

to help in this situation and everyone seems to be cooperating there's a lot of work to that has been done and we're real proud of them mr mayor i know this has been a difficult day for you difficult day for all the people in nacogdoches thanks for spending a few moments with us with our viewers here on cnn thank you very much mr mayor and i just want to point out anderson before we go back to you there were more than 80 experiments that were conducted over these 16 days aboard the space shuttle columbia unfortunately the results of those experiments which we had been told were pretty successful will be lost because all of the equipment was clearly destroyed anderson thanks very much wolf the columbia tragedy of course is being felt not only here in the u.s but in towns and cities around the world in india and israel places large and small rich and poor some international reaction when we return [Music] hi can i get a snow cone an ice cream sandwich a garden hose a dog house and a ping pong table what if you could get everything you need at one place at mission hospital we have one of the top trauma heart and maternity centers in california not to mention the experts of chocolate mission mission hospital everything for life it's treasures greatest accessory sale ever featuring the world's most famous name and accessories and occasional pieces maitlyn smith this floor sample sale offers you an extra 20 off treasures already reduced prices that's an extra 20 savings on maitland smith lamps end tables object state art and some of the most imaginative pieces you've ever seen this sale is limited to the million dollars in inventory in stock it's first come first served so hurry to

05:44:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=20641s)

it's first come first served so hurry to treasure's furniture in irvine east of freeway 5 at alton parkway i'll tell you what i'll do i'm going downtown mountaineers available side curtain airbags power adjustable foot pedals and the extra cargo space created by its standard full flat third row seat you'll be crazy about a mountaineer too lease the mountaineer for only 3.99 a month for 36 months with 27.99 do it signing after a thousand cashback see your california lincoln mercury dealer today i'm back and i love my customers drive a little seminar why pay more call kenzie guillen before 36 inch tv started 4.99 digital camera only started 149 cloud 79 laptop 99. this man 19.95 buy this man where else can you buy tv vcr for 99. i'm crazy [Music] there are times when it's tough to stick to the fundamentals but those are precisely the times when they matter most the same is true in investing focus on your goals execute your plan no matter what the conditions these basic principles aren't always easy to follow but they can get you there oppenheimer funds the right way to invest what has of course been said before but i think it's worth repeating colombia's crew of seven reflected the diversity of this country black and white men and women citizens and non-citizens among them israeli air force colonel ilan ramon the first israeli in space and mission specialist kalpana chola a

05:46:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=20760s)

and mission specialist kalpana chola a native of india naturalized american with a doctorate in aerospace engineering this was her second shuttle flight so today's tragedy is being felt not just here but around the world we're joined right now in jerusalem by cnn's kelly wallace and in carnival india cnn satinder bindra thanks very much both of you for joining us kelly i want to start off with you uh reaction in israel has been very strong this has been a major story uh tell us about some of it anderson that is right it is now sunday morning here in israel and just about two hours from now israeli prime minister ariel sharon along with the u.s ambassador to israel will attend a special ceremony before the prime minister's weekly cabinet meeting to remember colonel ramon and the six other astronauts who were killed prime minister sharon called the shuttle disaster a heavy tragedy for israel the 48 year old colonel ramon became a hometown hero after he lifted off as the first israeli to travel in space the news gave israeli something to cheer about after 28 months of violence but now israelis are dealing with something that is all too familiar and that is grief one woman in tel aviv put it this way i just keep thinking that nothing goes right in this country ramon had a distinguished military career including participating in the bombing and destruction of a nuclear reactor under construction in iraq back in 1981 but ramon's brother who is communicating with ramon via email in space says this shuttle mission was his proudest accomplishment there was euphoria and great joy because it was the realization of elon's greatest dream [Music] he was overjoyed he corresponded from the shuttle he wrote that he felt he was above the clouds in every sense [Music]

05:48:03 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=20883s)

and ramon's brother remembers the last email just two days ago ramon said he was so happy that he didn't want to come back to earth and ramone's brother saying this night he didn't come back to earth ramon's extended family is traveling to the united states to be with ramon's wife and his four children the family has been in texas for the past few years while ramon was training for space anderson kelly wallace in jerusalem thank you it has been a very long period of time for you you have been up all night we appreciate you joining us uh this evening for that report we go now to uh cornell india so tinder binder standing by what is the reaction in in that town well of course anderson this was kalpana traveller's hometown she was born here and right at the moment i'm standing at kalpana chavela's former school a prayer ceremony is going on here and people are saying that although she may have been lost in space she'll forever have a place in the hearts and minds of the people here in cornell i mentioned i'm at our school and late last night hundreds of students had gathered here to welcome kaipana chadla back to us but quickly their joy turned to grief kathmachala of course was a student here in the 70s after she finished up here she took a bachelor's in electronic or aviation engineering and then went on to the united states she took her master's there and then followed up with a phd from the united states from the university of colorado in 1994 anderson she was selected for the nasa space program flew her first place mission in 1997 and of course she was a senior member of the current space team late last night her family spoke to the media and shared their deep sense of loss but also how to make it more you're involved in such a profession you need to be ready for this kind of news i was just telling my friends that if

05:50:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=21001s)

i was just telling my friends that if you're in the army or air force or any such field you should be ready to receive such news when this can happen to others it can also happen to you this time such a tragedy has befallen our family but our relatives and friends and the people of karnal are she has a lot of friends and family here and they're feeling her loss the deepest year at our former school because every year kalpana traveller would take two students from here to visit nasa the indian prime minister mr adul bihari rajpai has also sent a letter of condolence to the american people and this has been addressed to the u.s president mr george w bush back to you now anderson a lot of pain tonight all around the world so tinder bindra in cornell india thanks very much all the astronauts lost today had extraordinary backgrounds extraordinary a compliment accomplishments the best and the brightest literally one of them nasa mission specialist david brown was a captain in the u.s navy where he qualified as a pilot and an instructor he had been at one point the first and only flight surgeon in a decade chosen for pilot training believe it or not brown was also an accomplished gymnast unicyclist and acrobat we spoke with his family they were just wonderful a stunned mother who just weeks ago had traveled with her husband to florida for colombia's launch whose son mission specialist david brown had taped a cheerful pre-flight message i grew up dreaming about the space program but never really thought i'd ever get a chance to do it i can assure you that my crew and i are in great spirits dorothy and paul brown were home waiting to see the landing on television when they heard communication had been lost and a nasa phone call confirmed their fears we're a bit numb right now it's sort of unbelievable you see that he's just gone like so many they thought the most

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gone like so many they thought the most dangerous part of the flight was over and the landing would be safe people were starting to again think that it was routine weren't they yes it told you that can't take anything for granted it was the first flight for david navy captain doctor and pilot the virginia native part of a large class of nasa hopefuls who started astronaut training in 1996. he was in the sardine class instead of six or seven people they took in over a hundred in one year and so they called him the sardines david had taken a thanksgiving photo of his family with him into space he'd emailed his parents from orbit the final message coming friday afternoon the views of the earth are really beautiful if you've ever seen a space imax movie that's really what it looks like the browns say david understood the risks of space flight and discussed them with his older brother what if you were to die and dave just said this program will go on it has to go on david's

parents proud believers in their son's dream even if in the end it leaves him with no final resting place we saw the debris come down in the newsreel photographs and i'd like to have something of dave to bury that may not happen kathleen koch cnn rappahannock county virginia one family mourns a son america mourns its heroes the signs of tragedy and how some are expressing their grief [Music]

05:54:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=21240s)

hi i'm john shearer ceo and founder of video professor you know after teaching people how to operate their computers for over 15 years now i'm amazed that there are still people that don't have computer skills like windows word processing the internet and email if you're looking for that new job or maybe it's just balancing your budget or even helping your kids with homework these aren't handy skills to have these are essential if you're having trouble learning the computer i'm going to help you out with a free learning lesson of your choice from video professor let me show you how simple this is you put the cd in your cd drive the lesson plays right on your computer screen just follow the step-by-step instructions that guide you through learning the software the lesson always stays on top of the program you're learning you see what to do then just do it yourself you can't make a mistake because you see the results right in front of you you can pause or rewind the lesson to move at your own pace the cd is like having your own personal tutor it's always there for you to learn or review whenever and wherever it's convenient you know the best part about this offer this is free it's important for you to know the reason why i'm doing this that's because i know that once you try our product you'll come back to us for all your computer learning needs these lessons are jam-packed they're over an hour in length we've been doing this for over 15 years and we have over 4 million customers you just pay a small shipping and handling and i'll even refund that if you're not satisfied with my product it's free the risk is free so what do you got to lose try my product call video professor now for your free lesson choose from windows word quicken the internet and many more call in the next 10 minutes and this free gift will be yours the anytime organizer is the calendar diary address book and journal on your pc so you'll never miss an appointment again remember you must call now to get your free cd and the extra free gift to get your free computer learning cd you must call now call

05:56:04 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=21364s)

a forensic 1-800-326-7916 it is sarcophaga a critical piece of evidence revealing exact time temperature and sometimes even cause of death find out how forensic experts use clues like these to solve crimes on forensic files monday through frame on court tv [Music] the columbia crew spent a tremendous amount of time learning and living together today they died together their loss has now brought a nation together to grieve and remember their goals and the bold journey they dare to take together i'm anderson cooper thanks very much for joining us from the cnn center in atlanta we leave you with some parting words from cnn's bruce morton in churches all this week our prayers will be for the families that survive those seven astronauts and the whole space program family at the kennedy space center at the white house flags at half staff at nasa headquarters hear a flag and a banner which now looks sad family members grieve of course that's what he's dreamed of doing most of his life but that's what he said his goals to do the principal of astronaut david brown's old high school called us last year and asked if there was something that he could take from the high school up with him on this space mission we eventually did send him a banner of the school that he brought up strangers were shocked in a gym in chicago's planetarium i went to space

05:58:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=21481s)

chicago's planetarium i went to space camp and um now it kind of scares me almost so i don't know how much i'm gonna have second thoughts but i wanna get into that i'm feeling pretty bad about this accident i mean like ever since challenger crashed i thought there was never going to be another space shuttle accident it's just pure shock disbelief this is unreal i mean you come out here expecting to see a shuttle land and it's just not there in fact it's just 17 years and three days since the shuttle challenger exploded on takeoff on the anniversary columbia commander rick husband remembered that crew and three others who died in the 1967 fire their dedication and devotion to the exploration of space was an inspiration to each of us and

still motivates people around the world to achieve great things in service to others president bush led the morning for the seven who died aboard colombia the crew of the shuttle columbia did not return safely to earth yet we can pray that all are safely home and at the nasa briefings for reporters some voices broke my promise to the crew and the crew families is that the investigation that we have just launched will find the cause we'll fix it and then we'll move on they will move on humankind has crossed oceans explored continents walked on the moon some kid tonight will be looking at the stars and thinking why not the urge to know what's out there is part of who we are bruce morton cnn [Music] washington [Music] [Applause]

[06:00:03 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=21603s)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDFuChq8TA&t=21603s)

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